



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

GNE.3230R1C39

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Eaton, et al.
Appl. No. : 10/063,557
Filed : May 2, 2002
For : SECRETED AND
TRANSMEMBRANE
POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC
ACIDS ENCODING THE SAME
Examiner : David J. Blanchard
Group Art Unit : 1642

DECLARATION OF J. CHRISTOPHER GRIMALDI, UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I, J. Christopher Grimaldi, declare and say as follows:

1. I am a Senior Research Associate in the Molecular Biology Department of Genentech, Inc., South San Francisco, CA 94080.

2. I joined Genentech in January of 1999. From 1999 to 2003, I directed the Cloning Laboratory in the Molecular Biology Department. During this time I directed or performed numerous molecular biology techniques including qualitative Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) analyses. I am currently involved in, among other projects, the isolation of genes coding for membrane associated proteins which can be used as targets for antibody therapeutics against cancer. In connection with the above-identified patent application, I personally performed or directed the semi-quantitative PCR analyses in the assay entitled "Tumor Versus Normal Differential Tissue Expression Distribution" which is described in EXAMPLE 18 in the specification that were used to identify differences in gene expression between tumor tissue and their normal counterparts.

3. My scientific Curriculum Vitae, including my list of publications, is attached to and forms part of this Declaration (Exhibit A).

4. In differential gene expression studies, one looks for genes whose expression levels differ significantly under different conditions, for example, in normal versus diseased tissue.

Appl. No. : 10/063,557
Filed : May 2, 2002

Chromosomal aberrations, such as gene amplification, and chromosomal translocations are important markers of specific types of cancer and lead to the aberrant expression of specific genes and their encoded polypeptides, including over-expression and under-expression. For example, gene amplification is a process in which specific regions of a chromosome are duplicated, thus creating multiple copies of certain genes that normally exist as a single copy. Gene under-expression can occur when a gene is not transcribed into mRNA. In addition, chromosomal translocations occur when two different chromosomes break and are rejoined to each other chromosome resulting in a chimeric chromosome which displays a different expression pattern relative to the parent chromosomes. Amplification of certain genes such as Her2/Neu [Singleton *et al.*, Pathol. Annu., 27Pt1:165-190], or chromosomal translocations such as t(5;14), [Grimaldi *et al.*, Blood, 73(8):2081-2085(1989); Meeker *et al.*, Blood, 76(2):285-289(1990)] give cancer cells a growth or survival advantage relative to normal cells, and might also provide a mechanism of tumor cell resistance to chemotherapy or radiotherapy. When the chromosomal aberration results in the aberrant expression of a mRNA and the corresponding gene product (the polypeptide), as it does in the aforementioned cases, the gene product is a promising target for cancer therapy, for example, by the therapeutic antibody approach.

5. Comparison of gene expression levels in normal versus diseased tissue has important implications both diagnostically and therapeutically. For example, those who work in this field are well aware that in the vast majority of cases, when a gene is over-expressed, as evidenced by an increased production of mRNA, the gene product or polypeptide will also be over-expressed. It is unlikely that one identifies increased mRNA expression without associated increased protein expression. This same principle applies to gene under-expression. When a gene is under-expressed, the gene product is also likely to be under-expressed. Stated in another way, two cell samples which have differing mRNA concentrations for a specific gene are expected to have correspondingly different concentration of protein for that gene. Techniques used to detect mRNA, such as Northern Blotting, Differential Display, *in situ* hybridization, quantitative PCR, Taqman, and more recently Microarray technology all rely on the dogma that a change in mRNA will represent a similar change in protein. If this dogma did not hold true then these techniques would have little value and not be so widely used. The use of mRNA quantitation techniques have identified a seemingly endless number of genes which are differentially expressed in various tissues and these genes have subsequently been shown to have correspondingly similar changes in their protein levels. Thus, the detection of increased mRNA expression is expected to result in increased polypeptide expression, and the detection of decreased mRNA expression is expected to result in decreased polypeptide expression. The detection of increased or decreased polypeptide expression can be used for cancer diagnosis and treatment.

6. However, even in the rare case where the protein expression does not correlate with the mRNA expression, this still provides significant information useful for cancer diagnosis and treatment. For example, if over- or under-expression of a gene product does not correlate with over- or under-expression of mRNA in certain tumor types but does so in others, then identification of both gene expression and protein expression enables more accurate tumor classification and hence better determination of suitable therapy. In addition, absence of over- or

Appl. No. : 10/063,557
Filed : May 2, 2002

under-expression of the gene product in the presence of a particular over- or under-expression of mRNA is crucial information for the practicing clinician. For example, if a gene is over-expressed but the corresponding gene product is not significantly over-expressed, the clinician accordingly will decide not to treat a patient with agents that target that gene product.

7. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information or belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

By: _____

Christopher Grimaldi

Date: _____

8/10/2004

S:\DOCS\AOK\AOK-5479.DOC
071904

EXHIBIT A

J. Christopher Grimaldi

1434-36th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94122
(415) 681-1639 (Home)

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley
Bachelor of Arts in Molecular Biology, 1984

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

SRA

Genentech Inc., South San Francisco; 1/99 to present

Previously, was responsible to direct and manage the Cloning Lab. Currently focused on isolating cancer specific genes for the Tumor Antigen (TAP), and Secreted Tumor Protein (STOP) projects for the Oncology Department as well as Immunologically relevant genes for the Immunology Department. Directed a lab of 6 scientists focused on a company-wide team effort to identify and isolate secreted proteins for potential therapeutic use (SPDI). For the SPDI project my duties were, among other things, the critically important coordination of the cloning of thousands of putative genes, by developing a smooth process of communication between the Bioinformatics, Cloning, Sequencing, and Legal teams. Collaborated with several groups to discover novel genes through the Curagen project, a unique differential display methodology. Interacted extensively with the Legal team providing essential data needed for filing patents on novel genes discovered through the SPDI, TAP and Curagen projects. My group has developed, implemented and patented high throughput cloning methodologies that have proven to be essential for the isolation of hundreds of novel genes for the SPDI, TAP and Curagen projects as well as dozens of other smaller projects.

Scientist

DNAX Research Institute, Palo Alto; 9/91 to 1/99

Involved in multiple projects aimed at understanding novel genes discovered through bioinformatics studies and functional assays. Developed and patented a method for the specific depletion of eosinophils in vivo using monoclonal antibodies. Developed and implemented essential technical methodologies and provided strategic direction in the areas of expression, cloning, protein purification, general molecular biology, and monoclonal antibody production. Trained and supervised numerous technical staff.

Facilities

Manager

Corixa, Redwood City; 5/89 - 7/91.

Directed plant-related activities, which included expansion planning, maintenance, safety, purchasing, inventory control, shipping and receiving, and laboratory management. Designed and implemented the safety program. Also served as liaison to regulatory agencies at the local, state and federal level. Was in charge of property leases, leasehold improvements, etc. Negotiated vendor contracts and directed the purchasing department. Trained and supervised personnel to carry out the above-mentioned duties.

SRA University of California, San Francisco
Cancer Research Institute; 2/87-4/89.

Was responsible for numerous cloning projects including: studies of somatic hypermutation, studies of AIDS-associated lymphomas, and cloning of t(5;14), t(11;14), and t(8;14) translocations. Focused on the activation of hemopoietic growth factors involved in the t(5;14) translocation in leukemia patients..

Research Berlex Biosciences, South San Francisco; 7/85-2/87.
Technician

Worked on a subunit porcine vaccine directed against *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*. Was responsible for generating genomic libraries, screening with degenerate oligonucleotides, and characterizing and expressing clones in *E. coli*. Also constructed a general purpose expression vector for use by other scientific teams.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Hilary F. Clark, et al. "The Secreted Protein Discovery Initiative (SPDI), a Large-scale Effort to Identify Novel Human Secreted and Transmembrane Proteins: a bioinformatics assessment." *Genome Res.* Vol 13(10), 2265-2270, 2003
2. Sean H. Adams, Clarissa Chui, Sarah L. Schilbach, Xing Xian Yu, Audrey D. Goddard, J. Christopher Grimaldi, James Lee, Patrick Dowd, David A. Lewin, & Steven Colman. "BFTT, a Unique Acyl-CoA Thioesterase Induced in Thermogenic Brown Adipose Tissue: Cloning, organization of the human gene and assessment of a potential link to obesity" *Biochemical Journal*, Vol 360, 135-142, 2001
3. Szeto W, Jiang W, Tice DA, Rubinfeld B, Hollingshead PG, Fong SE, Dugger DL, Pham T, Yansura D, Wong TA, Grimaldi JC, Corpuz RT, Singh JS, Frantz GD, Devaux B, Crowley CW, Schwall RH, Eberhard DA, Rastelli L, Polakis P, and Pennica D. "Overexpression of the Retinoic Acid-Responsive Gene *Stra6* in Human Cancers and its Synergistic Activation by Wnt-1 and Retinoic Acid." *Cancer Research* Vol. 61(10), 4197-4205, 2001
4. Jeanne Kahn, Fuad Mehraban, Gladdys Ingle, Xiaohua Xin, Juliet E. Bryant, Gordon Vehar, Jill Schoenfeld, J. Christopher Grimaldi (incorrectly named as "Grimaldi, CJ"), Franklin Peale, Aparna Draksharapu, David A. Lewin, and Mary E. Gerritsen. "Gene Expression Profiling in an in Vitro Model of Angiogenesis." *American Journal of Pathology* Vol 156(6), 1887-1900, 2000.
5. Grimaldi JC, Yu NX, Grunig G, Seymour BW, Cottrez F, Robinson DS, Hosken N, Ferlin WG, Wu X, Soto H, O'Garra A, Howard MC, Coffman RL. "Depletion of eosinophils in mice through the use of antibodies specific for C-C chemokine receptor 3 (CCR3). *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*; Vol. 65(6), 846-53, 1999
6. Oliver AM, Grimaldi JC, Howard MC, Kearney JF. "Independently ligating CD38 and Fc gammaRIIB relays a dominant negative signal to B cells." *Hybridoma* Vol. 18(2), 113-9, 1999

7. Cockayne DA, Muchamuel T, Grimaldi JC, Muller-Steffner H, Randall TD, Lund FB, Murray R, Schuber F, Howard MC. "Mice deficient for the ecto-nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide glycohydrolase CD38 exhibit altered humoral immune responses." *Blood* Vol. 92(4), 1324-33, 1998
8. Frances E. Lund, Nanette W. Solvason, Michael P. Cooke, Andrew W. Heath, J. Christopher Grimaldi, Troy D. Randall, R. M. E. Parkhouse, Christopher C Goodnow and Maureen C. Howard. "Signaling through murine CD38 is impaired in antigen receptor unresponsive B cells." *European Journal of Immunology*, Vol. 25(5), 1338-1345, 1995
9. M. J. Guimaraes, J. F. Bazan, A. Zolotnik, M. V. Wiles, J. C. Grimaldi, F. Lee, T. McClanahan. "A new approach to the study of haematopoietic development in the yolk sac and embryoid body." *Development*, Vol. 121(10), 3335-3346, 1995
10. J. Christopher Grimaldi, Sriram Balasubramanian, J. Fernando Bazan, Armen Shanafelt, Gerard Zurawski and Maureen Howard. "CD38-mediated protein ribosylation." *Journal of Immunology*, Vol. 155(2), 811-817, 1995
11. Leopoldo Santos-Argumedo, Frances F. Lund, Andrew W. Heath, Nanette Solvason, Wei Wei Wu, J. Christopher Grimaldi, R. M. E. Parkhouse and Maureen Howard. "CD38 unresponsiveness of xid B cells implicates Bruton's tyrosine kinase (btk) as a regulator of CD38 induced signal transduction." *International Immunology*, Vol 7(2), 163-170, 1995
12. Frances Lund, Nanette Solvason, J. Christopher Grimaldi, R. M. E. Parkhouse and Maureen Howard. "Murine CD38: An immunoregulatory ectoenzyme." *Immunology Today*, Vol. 16(10), 469-473, 1995
13. Maureen Howard, J. Christopher Grimaldi, J. Fernando Bazan, Frances E. Lund, Leopoldo Santos-Argumedo, R. M. E. Parkhouse, Timothy F. Walseth, and Hon Cheung Lee. "Formation and Hydrolysis of Cyclic ADP-Ribose Catalyzed by Lymphocyte Antigen CD38." *Science*, Vol. 262, 1056-1059, 1993
14. Nobuyuki Harada, Leopoldo Santos-Argumedo, Ray Chang, J. Christopher Grimaldi, Frances Lund, Camilynn I. Brannan, Neal G. Copeland, Nancy A. Jenkins, Andrew Heath, R. M. E. Parkhouse and Maureen Howard. "Expression Cloning of a cDNA Encoding a Novel Murine B Cell Activation Marker: Homology to Human CD38." *The Journal of Immunology*, Vol. 151, 3111-3118, 1993
15. David J. Rawlings, Douglas C. Saffran, Satoshi Tsukada, David A. Largaespada, J. Christopher Grimaldi, Lucie Cohen Randolph N. Mohr, J. Fernando Bazan, Maureen Howard, Neal G. Copeland, Nancy A. Jenkins, Owen Witte. "Mutation of Unique Region of Bruton's Tyrosine Kinase in Immunodeficient XID Mice." *Science*, Vol. 261, 358-360, 1993
16. J. Christopher Grimaldi, Raul Torres, Christine A. Kozak, Ray Chang, Edward Clark, Maureen Howard, and Debra A. Cockayne. "Genomic Structure and Chromosomal Mapping of the Murine CD40 Gene." *The Journal of Immunology*, Vol 149, 3921-3926, 1992
17. Timothy C. Meeker, Bruce Shiramizu, Lawrence Kaplan, Brian Herndier, Henry Sanchez, J. Christopher Grimaldi, James Baumgartner, Jacob Rachlin, Ellen Feigal, Mark Rosenblum and Michael S. McGrath. "Evidence for Molecular Subtypes of HIV-Associated Lymphoma:

Division into Peripheral Monoclonal, Polyclonal and Central Nervous System Lymphoma." AIDS, Vol. 5, 669-674, 1991

18. Ann Grimaldi and Chris Grimaldi. "Small-Scale Lambda DNA Prep." Contribution to Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, Supplement 5, Winter 1989
19. J. Christopher Grimaldi, Timothy C. Meeker. "The t(5;14) Chromosomal Translocation in a Case of Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia Joins the Interleukin-3 Gene to the Immunoglobulin Heavy Chain Gene." Blood, Vol. 73, 2081-2085, 1989
20. Timothy C. Meeker, J. Christopher Grimaldi, et al. "An Additional Breakpoint Region in the BCL-1 Locus Associated with the t(11;14) (q13;q32) Translocation of B-Lymphocytic Malignancy." Blood, Vol. 74, 1801-1806, 1989
21. Timothy C. Meeker, J. Christopher Grimaldi, Robert O'Rourke, et al. "Lack of Detectable Somatic Hypermutation in the V Region of the Ig H Chain Gene of a Human Chronic B Lymphocytic Leukemia." The Journal of Immunology, Vol. 141, 3994-3998, 1988

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

1. Sriram Balasubramanian, J. Christopher Grimaldi, J. Fernando Bazan, Gerard Zurawski and Maureen Howard. "Structural and functional characterization of CD38: Identification of active site residues"

PATENTS

1. "Methods for Eosinophil Depletion with Antibody to CCR3 Receptor" (US 6,207,155 B1).
2. "Amplification Based Cloning Method." (US 6,607,899)
3. Ashkenazi et al., "Secreted and Transmembrane Polypeptides and Nucleic Acids Encoding the Same." (this patent covers several hundred genes)
4. "IL-17 Homologous Polypeptides and Therapeutic Uses Thereof"
5. "Method of Diagnosing and Treating Cartilaginous Disorders."

MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES

Editor	Frontiers in Bioscience
Member	DNAX Safety Committee 1991-1999
	Biological Safety Affairs Forum (BSAF) 1990-1991
	Environmental Law Foundation (ELF) 1990-1991

Clinical and Pathologic Significance of the *c-erbB-2* (*HER-2/neu*) Oncogene

Timothy P. Singleton and John G. Strickler

The *c-erbB-2* oncogene was first shown to have clinical significance in 1987 by Slamon et al,⁷⁰ who reported that *c-erbB-2* DNA amplification in breast carcinomas correlated with decreased survival in patients with metastasis to axillary lymph nodes. Subsequent studies, however, of *c-erbB-2* activation in breast carcinoma reached conflicting conclusions about its clinical significance. This oncogene also has been reported to have clinical and pathologic implications in other neoplasms. Our review summarizes these various studies and examines the clinical relevance of *c-erbB-2* activation, which has not been emphasized in recent reviews.^{37,38,55} The molecular biology of the *c-erbB-2* oncogene has been extensively reviewed^{37,38,55} and will be discussed only briefly here.

BACKGROUND

The *c-erbB-2* oncogene was discovered in the 1980s by three lines of investigation. The *neu* oncogene was detected as a mutated transforming gene in neuroblastomas induced by ethylnitrosurea treatment of fetal rats.^{8,73,74,75} The *c-erbB-2* was a human gene discovered by its homology to the retroviral gene *v-erbB*.^{33,49,76} *HER-2* was isolated by screening a human genomic DNA library for homology with *v-erbB*.²⁴ When the DNA sequences were determined subsequently, *c-erbB-2*, *HER-2*, and *neu* were found to represent the same gene. Recently, the *c-erbB-2* oncogene also has been referred to as *NGL*.

The *c-erbB-2* DNA is located on human chromosome 17q21^{24,33,66} and codes for *c-erbB-2* mRNA (4.6 kb), which translates *c-erbB-2* protein (p185). This

protein is a normal component of cytoplasmic membranes. The *c-erbB-2* oncogene is homologous with, but not identical to, *c-erbB-1*, which is located on chromosome 7 and codes for the epidermal growth factor receptor.^{2,103} The *c-erbB-2* protein is a receptor on cell membranes and has intracellular tyrosine kinase activity and an extracellular binding domain.^{2,105} Electron microscopy with a polyclonal antibody detects *c-erbB-2* immunoreactivity on cytoplasmic membranes of neoplasms, especially on microvilli and the non-villous outer cell membrane.⁶¹ In normal cells, immunohistochemical reactivity for *c-erbB-2* is frequently present at the basolateral membrane or the cytoplasmic membrane's brush border.^{22,62}

There is experimental evidence that *c-erbB-2* protein may be involved in the pathogenesis of breast neoplasia. Overproduction of otherwise normal *c-erbB-2* protein can transform a cell line into a malignant phenotype.²⁵ Also, when the *neu* oncogene containing an activating point mutation is placed in transgenic mice with a strong promoter for increased expression, the mice develop multiple independent mammary adenocarcinomas.^{18,63} In other experiments, monoclonal antibodies against the *neu* protein inhibit the growth (in nude mice) of a *neu*-transformed cell line,²⁶⁻²⁸ and immunization of mice with *neu* protein protects them from subsequent tumor challenge with the *neu*-transformed cell line.¹⁴ Some authors have speculated that the use of antagonists for the unknown ligand could be useful in future chemotherapy.⁶⁵ Further review of this experimental evidence is beyond the scope of this article.

The *c-erbB-2* activation most likely occurs at an early stage of neoplastic development. This hypothesis is supported by the presence of *c-erbB-2* activation in both in situ and invasive breast carcinomas. In addition, studies of metastatic breast carcinomas usually demonstrate uniform *c-erbB-2* activation at multiple sites in the same patient,^{11,12,39,41,52} although *c-erbB-2* activation has rarely been detected in metastatic lesions but not in the primary tumor.^{67,68,107} Even more rarely, *c-erbB-2* DNA amplification has been detected in a primary breast carcinoma but not in its lymph node metastasis.⁵ In patients who have bilateral breast neoplasms, both lesions have similar patterns of *c-erbB-2* activation, but only a few such cases have been studied.¹¹

MECHANISMS OF *c-erbB-2* ACTIVATION

The most common mechanism of *c-erbB-2* activation is genomic DNA amplification, which almost always results in overproduction of *c-erbB-2* mRNA and protein.^{17,34,65,81} The *c-erbB-2* amplification may stabilize the overproduction of mRNA or protein through unknown mechanisms. Human breast carcinomas with *c-erbB-2* amplification contain 2 to 40 times more *c-erbB-2* DNA⁴³ and 4 to 128 times more *c-erbB-2* mRNA^{34,90} than found in normal tissue. Most human breast carcinomas with *c-erbB-2* amplification have 2 to 15 times more *c-erbB-2* DNA. Tumors with greater amplification tend to have greater overproduction.^{17,52,65} The non-mammary neoplasms that have been studied tend to have

similar levels of c-erbB-2 amplification or overproduction relative to the corresponding normal tissue.

The second most common mechanism of c-erbB-2 activation is overproduction of c-erbB-2 mRNA and protein without amplification of c-erbB-2 DNA.⁸¹ The quantities of mRNA and protein usually are less than those in amplified cases and may approach the small quantities present in normal breast or other tissues.^{17,50,52} The c-erbB-2 protein overproduction without mRNA overproduction or DNA amplification has been described in a few human breast carcinoma cell lines.⁴⁷

Other rare mechanisms of c-erbB-2 activation have been reported. Translocations involving the c-erbB-2 gene have been described in a few mammary and gastric carcinomas, although some reported cases may represent restriction fragment length polymorphisms or incomplete restriction enzyme digestions that mimic translocations.^{31,63,75,84,90,108} A single point mutation in the transmembrane portion of *neu* has been described in rat neuroblastomas induced by ethylnitrosourea.^{9,55} The mutated *neu* protein has increased tyrosine kinase activity and aggregates at the cell membrane.^{10,83,98} Although there has been speculation that some of the amplified c-erbB-2 genes may contain point mutations,⁴⁶ none has been detected in primary human neoplasms.^{41,53,81}

TECHNIQUES FOR DETECTING c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION

Detection of c-erbB-2 DNA Amplification

Amplification of c-erbB-2 DNA is usually detected by DNA dot blot or Southern blot hybridization. In the dot blot method, the extracted DNA is placed directly on a nylon membrane and hybridized with a c-erbB-2 DNA probe. In the Southern blot method, the extracted DNA is treated with a restriction enzyme, and the fragments are separated by electrophoresis, transferred to a nylon membrane, and hybridized with a c-erbB-2 DNA probe. In both techniques, c-erbB-2 amplification is quantified by comparing the intensity (measured by densitometry) of the hybridization bands from the sample with those from control tissue.

Several technical problems may complicate the measurement of c-erbB-2 DNA amplification. First, the extracted tumor DNA may be excessively degraded or diluted by DNA from stromal cells.⁸¹ Second, the c-erbB-2 DNA probe must be carefully chosen and labeled. For example, oligonucleotide c-erbB-2 probes may not be sensitive enough for measuring a low level of c-erbB-2 amplification, because diploid copy numbers can be difficult to detect (unpublished data). Third, the total amounts of DNA in the sample and control tissue must be compensated for, often with a probe to an unamplified gene. Many studies have used control probes to genes on chromosome 17, the location of c-erbB-2, to correct for possible alterations in chromosome number. Identical results, however, are obtained by using control probes to genes on other chromosomes,^{5,65,80} with rare exception.¹⁷ Studies using control probes to the beta-

globin gene must be interpreted with caution, because one allele of this gene is deleted occasionally in breast carcinomas.³

Amplification of *c-erbB-2* DNA was assessed by using the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) in one recent study.³² Oligoprimers for the *c-erbB-2* gene and a control gene are added to the sample's DNA, and PCR is performed. If the sample contains more copies of *c-erbB-2* DNA than of the control gene, the *c-erbB-2* DNA is replicated preferentially.

Detection of *c-erbB-2* mRNA Overproduction

Overproduction of *c-erbB-2* mRNA usually is measured by RNA dot blot or Northern blot hybridization. Both techniques require extraction of RNA but otherwise are analogous to DNA dot blot and Southern blot hybridization. Use of PCR for detection of *c-erbB-2* mRNA has been described in two recent abstracts.^{89,102}

Overproduction of *c-erbB-2* mRNA can be measured by in situ hybridization. Sections are mounted on glass slides, treated with protease, hybridized with a radiolabeled probe, washed, treated with nuclease to remove unbound probe, and developed for autoradiography. Silver grains are seen only over tumor cells that overproduce *c-erbB-2* mRNA. Negative control probes are used.^{83,88,106} Our experience indicates that these techniques are relatively insensitive for detecting *c-erbB-2* mRNA overproduction in routinely processed tissue. Although the sensitivity may be increased by modifications that allow simultaneous detection of *c-erbB-2* DNA and mRNA, in situ hybridization still is cumbersome and expensive (unpublished data).

All of the above *c-erbB-2* mRNA detection techniques have several problems that make them more difficult to perform than techniques for detecting DNA amplification. One major problem is the rapid degradation of RNA in tissue that is not immediately frozen or fixed. In addition, during the detection procedure, RNA can be degraded by RNase, a ubiquitous enzyme, which must be eliminated meticulously from laboratory solutions. Third, control probes to genes that are uniformly expressed in the tissue of interest need to be carefully selected.

Detection of *c-erbB-2* Protein Overproduction

The most accurate methods for detecting *c-erbB-2* protein overproduction are the Western blot method and immunoprecipitation. Both techniques can document the binding specificity of various antibodies against *c-erbB-2* protein. In Western blot studies, protein is extracted from the tissue, separated by electrophoresis (according to size), transferred to a membrane, and detected by using antibodies to *c-erbB-2*. In immunoprecipitation studies, antibodies against *c-erbB-2* are added to a tumor lysate, and the resulting protein-antibody precipitate is separated by gel electrophoresis and stained for protein. Both Western blot and immunoprecipitation are useful research tools but currently are not practical for diagnostic pathology. Two recent abstracts have described an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) for detection of *c-erbB-2* protein.^{12,45}

Overproduction of c-erbB-2 protein is most commonly assessed by various immunohistochemical techniques. These procedures often generate conflicting results, which are explained at least partially by three factors. First, various studies have used different polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies. Because some polyclonal antibodies recognize weak bands in addition to the c-erbB-2 protein band on Western blot or immunoprecipitation, the results of these studies should be interpreted with caution.^{32,35,47,61} Even some monoclonal antibodies immunoprecipitate protein bands in addition to c-erbB-2 (p185).^{30,59,68} Second, tissue fixation contributes to variability between studies. For example, some antibodies detect c-erbB-2 protein only in frozen tissue and do not react in fixed tissue. In general, formalin fixation diminishes the sensitivity of immunohistochemical methods and decreases the number of reactive cells.^{61,66} When Bouin's fixative is used, there may be a higher percentage of positive cases.⁶² Third, minimal criteria for interpreting immunohistochemical staining are generally lacking. Although there is general agreement that distinct crisp cytoplasmic membrane staining is diagnostic for c-erbB-2 activation in breast carcinoma, the number of positive cells and the staining intensity required to diagnose c-erbB-2 protein overproduction varies from study to study and from antibody to antibody. Degradation of c-erbB-2 protein is not a problem because it can be detected in intact form more than 24 hours after tumor resection without fixation or freezing.⁶⁴

ACTIVATION OF c-erbB-2 IN BREAST LESIONS

Incidence of c-erbB-2 Activation

Most studies of c-erbB-2 oncogene activation do not specify histological subtypes of infiltrating breast carcinoma. Amplification of c-erbB-2 DNA was found in 19.1 percent (519 of 2715) of invasive carcinomas in 25 studies (Table 1), and c-erbB-2 mRNA or protein overproduction was detected in 20.9 percent (566 of 2714) of invasive carcinomas in 20 studies. Twelve studies have documented c-erbB-2 mRNA or protein overproduction in 15 percent (88 of 604) of carcinomas that lacked c-erbB-2 DNA amplification.

The incidence of c-erbB-2 activation in infiltrating breast carcinoma varies with the histological subtype. Approximately 22 percent (142 of 650) of infiltrating ductal carcinomas have c-erbB-2 activation, as expected from the above data. Other variants of breast carcinoma with frequent c-erbB-2 activation are inflammatory carcinoma (62 percent, 54 of 87), Paget's disease (82 percent, 9 of 11), and medullary carcinoma (22 percent, 5 of 23). In contrast, c-erbB-2 activation is infrequent in infiltrating lobular carcinoma (7 percent, 5 of 73) and tubular carcinoma (7 percent, 1 of 15).

The c-erbB-2 protein overproduction is present in 44 percent (44 of 100) of ductal carcinomas in situ and especially comedocarcinoma in situ (68 percent, 49 of 72). The micropapillary type of ductal carcinoma in situ also tends to have c-erbB-2 activation,^{40,64,68} especially if larger cells are present. The greater fre-

TABLE 1. c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION IN MALIGNANT HUMAN BREAST NEOPLASMS

Histological Diagnosis ^a	c-erbB-2 DNA Amplification ^a	c-erbB-2 mRNA Overproduction	c-erbB-2 Protein Overproduction ^b
Carcinoma, not otherwise specified	148/528, ⁸¹ 52/310, ¹⁷	42/180, ⁸⁰ 49/126, ³⁸	118/728, ^{80b}
	52/291, ¹⁰⁰ 28/176, ⁸⁷	19/62, ⁸³ 19/57, ⁸⁰	58/330, ^{17b} 47/313, ⁸⁵
	17/157, ¹¹³ 22/141, ⁸⁵	3/11, ⁸⁰ 6/10, ⁸⁰ 3/3 ⁸¹	17/195, ¹¹ 32/191, ⁸⁹
	14/136, ⁸⁷ 12/122, ⁴		31/185, ¹⁰¹ 34/102, ⁴
	19/103, ⁷⁹ 15/95, ⁸⁰		24/53, ^{82b} 23/47, ¹³
	15/88, ¹¹¹ 17/73, ⁷⁷		22/45, ⁸ 11/36, ⁸⁴
	16/66, ⁸² 6/61, ⁸⁰		7/24, ⁸¹ 1/10 ⁸¹
	11/57, ⁸² 10/57, ⁸⁵		
	13/51, ¹³ 8/49, ⁸¹		
	10/38, ⁸² 12/38, ⁸⁴		
	1/25, ¹³ 7/24, ⁸¹		
	7/15, ³¹ 7/10, ⁸⁸		
	2/10 ¹⁰⁷		
	—	18/136, ⁸¹ 14/73, ³⁴	16/231, ^{17b} 18/136, ⁸¹
Carcinoma, type not specified but lacking c-erbB-2 DNA amplification		8/16, ⁸³ 0/8, ⁸⁰ 1/4, ³¹	13/35, ¹³ 14/29, ^{82b}
		0/3 ⁸⁰	1/28, ⁸² 3/24, ⁸⁴
Infiltrating ductal carcinoma			0/17 ⁸¹
	21/118, ⁸² 23/107, ⁸⁴	35/65 ⁸⁴	22/137, ⁴⁰ 14/83, ⁸⁹
	17/50, ⁴ 7/37 ⁸⁰		9/34 ⁸⁹
	14/53 (comedo-carcinoma) ¹⁸		
	3/33 (tubuloductal carcinoma) ¹⁸		

Inflammatory carcinoma	33/60, ³⁵ 3/6 ³²	46/75 ³⁴	5/6 ^{32b}
Paget's disease	—	—	5/6, ⁴⁰ 2/3, ³⁴ 2/2 ³²
Tubular carcinoma	0/5, ¹⁸ 0/1 ³⁰	—	1/9 ⁴⁰
Medullary carcinoma	2/4, ¹⁸ 0/1 ³⁴	0/1 ³⁴	1/12, ⁴⁰ 1/3, ³⁸ 1/2, ³²
Mucinous carcinoma	0/1, ¹⁸ 0/1 ³⁰	—	0/1 ³⁸
Invasive papillary carcinoma	0/2 ³⁰	—	1/2 ³⁸
Infiltrating lobular carcinoma	1/16, ¹⁸ 0/6 ³⁴	1/5 ³⁴	2/27, ³² 0/12, ⁴⁰ 0/9, ³⁸
Mammary fibrosarcoma	0/1 ³⁰	—	1/5 ³⁸
"Benign cystosarcoma"	—	—	—
Ductal CIS ^a with minimal invasion	3/5 ³²	—	0/1 ³⁸
Ductal CIS	0/2 ³⁴	1/2 ³⁴	—
Ductal CIS, solid or comedo type	—	—	33/74, ⁴⁰ 10/24 ³⁹
Ductal CIS, micropapillary type	—	—	20/33, ³⁸ 19/29, ³²
Ductal CIS, micropapillary or cribriform type	—	—	10/10 ³⁴
Ductal CIS, papillary or cribriform type	—	—	10/10 ³⁸
Lobular CIS	—	—	1(local)/14 ³⁴
	—	—	0/16, ³² 1/9, ⁴⁰ 0/3 ⁴⁰
	—	—	0/16 ⁴⁰

^aShown as number of cases with activation/number of cases studied; reference is given as a superscript.

^bThese protein studies used Western blots; the rest used immunohistochemical methods.

^cCIS = carcinoma in situ.

quency of *c-erbB-2* protein overproduction in comedocarcinoma in situ, compared with infiltrating ductal carcinoma, could be explained by the fact that many infiltrating ductal carcinomas arise from other types of intraductal carcinoma, which show *c-erbB-2* activation infrequently. Others have speculated that carcinoma in situ with *c-erbB-2* activation tends to regress or to lose *c-erbB-2* activation during progression to invasion.^{40,68,82} Infiltrating and in situ components of ductal carcinoma, however, usually are similar with respect to *c-erbB-2* activation,^{11,39} although some authors have noted more heterogeneity of the immunohistochemical staining pattern in invasive than in in situ carcinoma.^{40,42,83} Activation of *c-erbB-2* is infrequent in lobular carcinoma in situ. If lesions contain more than one histological pattern of carcinoma in situ, the *c-erbB-2* protein overproduction tends to occur in the comedocarcinoma in situ but may include other areas of carcinoma in situ.^{42,54,68} Overproduction of *c-erbB-2* protein in ductal carcinoma in situ correlates with larger cell size and a periductal lymphoid infiltrate.⁶⁸

Activation of *c-erbB-2* has not been identified in benign breast lesions, including fibrocystic disease, fibroadenomas, and radial scars (Table 2). Strong membrane immunohistochemical reactivity for *c-erbB-2* has not been described in atypical ductal hyperplasia, although weak accentuation of membrane staining has been noted infrequently.^{39,42,54} In normal breast tissue, *c-erbB-2* DNA is diploid, and *c-erbB-2* is expressed at lower levels than in activated tumors.^{34,35,63,83}

These preliminary data suggest that *c-erbB-2* activation may not be useful for resolving many of the common problems in diagnostic surgical pathology. For example, *c-erbB-2* activation is infrequent in tubular carcinoma and radial scars. In addition, because *c-erbB-2* activation is unusual in atypical ductal hyperplasia, cribriform carcinoma in situ, and papillary carcinoma in situ, detection of *c-erbB-2* activation in these lesions may not be helpful in their differential diagnosis. The histological features of comedocarcinoma in situ, which commonly overproduces *c-erbB-2*, are unlikely to be mistaken for those of benign lesions. Activation of

TABLE 2. *c-erbB-2* ACTIVATION IN BENIGN HUMAN BREAST LESIONS

Histological Diagnosis	<i>c-erbB-2</i> DNA Amplification ^a	<i>c-erbB-2</i> mRNA Overproduction	<i>c-erbB-2</i> Protein Overproduction
Fibrocystic disease	0/10 ³³	—	0/32, ³⁹ 0/9, ⁸³ 0/8 ⁶⁸
Atypical ductal hyperplasia	—	—	2(weak)/21, ⁵⁴ 1(cytoplasmic)/13 ³⁹
Benign ductal hyperplasia	—	—	0/12 ³⁹
Sclerosing adenosis	—	—	0/4 ³⁹
Fibroadenomas	0/16, ³⁴ 0/6, ⁸³ 0/2, ²¹ 0/1 ⁹¹	0/6, ³⁵ 0/3 ³⁴	0/21, ³⁹ 0/10, ⁸³ 0/8, ⁸³ 0/3 ⁴²
Radial scars	—	—	0/22 ³⁹
Blunt duct adenosis	—	—	0/14 ³⁹
"Breast mastosis"	—	0/3 ³⁵	—

^aShown as number of cases with activation/number of cases studied; reference is given as a superscript.

c-erbB-2, however, does favor infiltrating ductal carcinoma over infiltrating lobular carcinoma. Further studies of these issues would be useful.

Correlation of c-erbB-2 Activation With Pathologic Prognostic Factors

Multiple studies have attempted to correlate c-erbB-2 activation with various pathologic prognostic factors (Table 3). Activation of c-erbB-2 was correlated with lymph node metastasis in 8 of 28 series, with higher histological grade in 6 of 17 series, and with higher stage in 4 of 14 series. Large tumor size was not associated with c-erbB-2 activation in most studies (11 of 14). Tetraploid DNA content and low proliferation, measured by Ki-67, have been suggested as prognostic factors and may correlate with c-erbB-2 activation.^{5,7}

Correlation of c-erbB-2 Activation With Clinical Prognostic Factors

Various studies have attempted also to correlate c-erbB-2 activation with clinical features that may predict a poor outcome (Table 4). Activation of c-erbB-2 correlated with absence of estrogen receptors in 10 of 28 series and with absence of progesterone receptors in 6 of 18 series. In most studies, patient age did not correlate with c-erbB-2 activation, and, in the rest of the reports, c-erbB-2 activation was associated with either younger or older ages.

Correlation of c-erbB-2 Activation With Patient Outcome

Slamon et al^{79,81} first showed that amplification of the c-erbB-2 oncogene independently predicts decreased survival of patients with breast carcinoma. The correlation of c-erbB-2 amplification with poor outcome was nearly as strong as the correlation of number of involved lymph nodes with poor outcome. Slamon et al also reported that c-erbB-2 amplification is an important prognostic indicator only in patients with lymph node metastasis.^{79,81}

A large number of subsequent studies also attempted to correlate c-erbB-2 activation with prognosis (Table 5). In 12 series, there was a correlation between c-erbB-2 activation and tumor recurrence or decreased survival. In five of these series, the predictive value of c-erbB-2 activation was reported to be independent of other prognostic factors. In contrast, 18 series did not confirm the correlation of c-erbB-2 activation with recurrence or survival. Four possible explanations for this controversy are discussed below.

One problem is that c-erbB-2 amplification correlates with prognosis mainly in patients with lymph node metastasis. As summarized in Table 5, most studies of patients with axillary lymph node metastasis showed a correlation of c-erbB-2 activation with poor outcome. In contrast, most studies of patients without axillary metastasis have not demonstrated a correlation with patient outcome. Table 6 summarizes the studies in which all patients (with and without axillary metastasis) were considered as one group. There is a trend for studies with a higher percentage of metastatic cases to show an association between c-erbB-2 activation and poor outcome. Thus, most of the current evidence suggests that c-erbB-2 activation has prognostic value only in patients with metastasis to lymph nodes.

TABLE 3. CORRELATION OF c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION WITH PATHOLOGIC PROGNOSTIC FACTORS IN BREAST CARCINOMA

Prognostic Factor	P ^a	c-erbB-2 DNA Amplification ^b	c-erbB-2 mRNA Overproduction	c-erbB-2 Protein Overproduction ^c
Metastasis to axillary lymph nodes	<0.05 0.05-0.15 >0.15	(118) ⁹⁵ (105) ⁹⁴ (49) ²¹ (103) ⁹² (86) ⁷² (58) ¹¹¹ (279) ¹⁷ (176) ⁸⁷ (157) ¹¹² (122) ⁴ (85) ⁹⁰ (50) ⁹² (50) ⁴⁴ (47) ¹³ (41) ⁹³	(104) ⁹⁵ (82) ⁹⁴ (9) ²¹ — (50) ⁹⁰	(350) ⁹⁵ (36) ¹³ (189) ⁹² (329) ¹⁷² (261) ⁹⁵ (195) ¹¹ (185) ¹⁰¹ (102) ⁹³ (50) ⁹²
Larger size	<0.05 0.05-0.15 >0.15	(280) ¹⁷ (86) ⁷² (176) ⁸⁷ (157) ¹¹² (103) ⁷² (64) ⁷⁷ (58) ¹¹¹ (45) ²¹	— — (51) ⁹⁰	(330) ¹⁷² (189) ⁹² — (350) ⁹⁵ (185) ¹⁰¹ (34) ⁹²
Higher stage	<0.05 0.05-0.15 >0.15	(300) ¹⁷ (64) ⁷⁷ (58) ¹¹¹ (56) ⁹² (176) ⁸⁷ (157) ¹¹² (84) ⁹⁰ (61) ⁹⁰ (53) ⁹³ (52) ⁸⁷ (41) ⁹³	— — — —	(349) ¹⁷² — (102) ⁹³ (56) ⁹²
Higher histological grade	<0.05 0.05-0.15 >0.15	(47) ¹³ (16) ³¹ — (122) ⁴ (113) ⁹⁴ (95) ⁹⁰ (58) ¹¹¹ (50) ⁴⁴ (41) ⁹³	(53) ⁹⁵ — (86) ⁹³ (65) ⁹⁵	(178) ¹⁰¹ (168) ¹¹ (38) ¹³ — (290) ⁹⁵ (189) ⁹² (102) ⁹³

^aA correlation is statistically significant at <0.05, equivocal at best between 0.05 and 0.15, and not statistically significant at >0.15.^bNumbers inside parentheses are the number of patients in an individual study; superscript is the reference. Some studies analyzed more than one group of patients.^cBy Western blot method; all other protein studies used immunohistochemical methods.

TABLE 4. CORRELATION OF c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION WITH CLINICAL PROGNOSTIC FACTORS IN BREAST CARCINOMA

Prognostic Factor	P ^a	c-erbB-2 DNA Amplification ^b	c-erbB-2 mRNA Overproduction	c-erbB-2 Protein Overproduction ^c
Absence of estrogen receptors	<0.05	(253) ¹⁰³ (141) ³⁵ (109) ³⁴ (86) ⁷³ (50) ⁴⁴ (47) ¹³	(104) ³⁵	(350) ^{85c} (330) ^{17c} (185) ¹⁰¹
	0.05-0.15	—	—	—
	>0.15	(157) ¹¹³ (122) ⁴ (103) ⁷³ (95) ³⁰ (64) ⁷⁷ (61) ⁶⁰ (58) ¹¹¹ (53) ²¹ (51) ³² (41) ³⁰	(180) ³⁵ (82) ³⁵ (62) ³⁵ (57) ³⁰	(290) ⁸⁵ (172) ¹¹ (51) ^{32c} (38) ¹³
Absence of progesterone receptors	<0.05	(253) ¹⁰³ (141) ³⁵ (109) ³⁴ (50) ⁴⁴	—	(350) ^{85c} (306) ^{17c}
	0.05-0.15	(86) ⁷³ (49) ³²	—	—
	>0.15	(157) ¹¹³ (122) ⁴ (103) ⁷³ (64) ⁷⁷	(180) ³⁵ (103) ³⁵ (82) ³⁵ (56) ³⁵	(90) ¹¹ (49) ^{32c}
Age (menopausal status)	<0.05	—	—	(younger: 330) ^{17c} (older: 56) ^{32c}
	0.05-0.15	(younger: 86) ⁷³ (230) ¹⁷ (176) ³⁷ (157) ¹¹³	—	—
	>0.15	(122) ⁴ (116) ³⁴ (103) ⁷³ (95) ³⁰ (64) ⁷⁷ (58) ¹¹¹ (56) ³² (53) ²¹ (49) ¹³ (41) ³⁰ (15) ³¹	(62) ³⁵	(350) ^{85c} (290) ⁸⁵ (189) ⁸² (182) ¹¹ (45) ³²

^aA correlation is statistically significant at <0.05, equivocal at best between 0.05 and 0.15, and not statistically significant at >0.15^bNumbers inside parentheses are the number of patients in an individual study; superscript is the reference. Some studies analyzed more than one group of patients.^cBy Western blot method; all other protein studies used immunohistochemical methods.

TABLE 5. CORRELATION OF c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION WITH OUTCOME IN PATIENTS WITH BREAST CARCINOMA

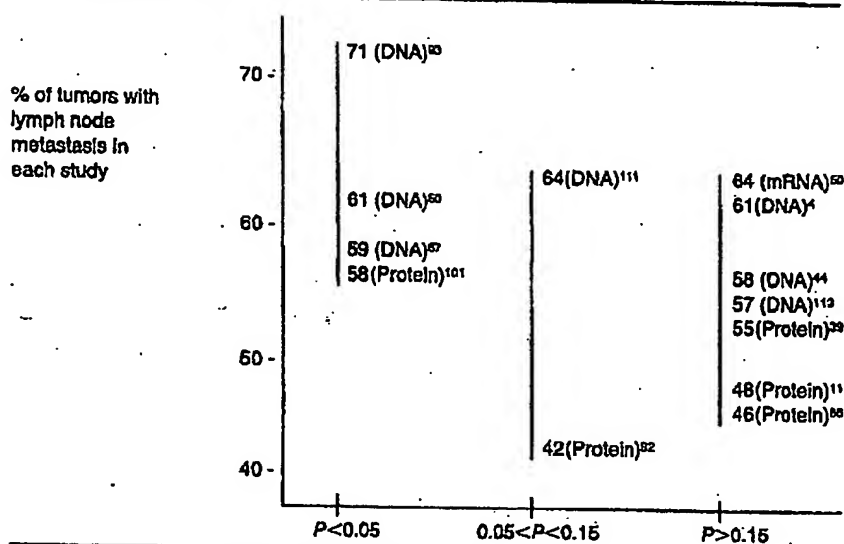
P ^a	Type of c-erbB-2 Activation ^b	Number of Patients		Statistical Analysis ^c	Reference
		Total	With Metastasis to Axillary Lymph Nodes		
<0.05	DNA	176		M	87
<0.05	DNA	61		U	50
<0.05	DNA	57		U	65
<0.05	DNA	41		U	83
<0.05	mRNA	62		U	65
<0.05	Protein	102		M	101
<0.05	DNA		345	M	81
<0.05	DNA		120	U	17
<0.05	DNA		91	U	87
<0.05	DNA		86	M	79
<0.05	Protein-WB		350	M	85
<0.05	Protein		62	U	101
0.05-0.15	DNA	57		U	111
0.05-0.15	Protein	189		M	92
0.05-0.15	Protein		120	U	86
>0.15	DNA	130		U	113
>0.15	DNA	122		M	4
>0.15	DNA	50		U	44
>0.15	mRNA	57		U	50
>0.15	Protein	290		M	88
>0.15	Protein	195		U	11
>0.15	Protein	102		U	39
>0.15	Protein		137	U	17
>0.15	DNA			M	81
>0.15	DNA			U	17
>0.15	DNA			U	87
>0.15	Protein-WB			U	85
>0.15	Protein-WB			U	17
>0.15	Protein			U	86
>0.15	Protein			U	40

^aThe endpoints of these studies were tumor recurrence or decreased survival or both. Correlation between c-erbB-2 activation and a poorer patient outcome is statistically significant at <0.05, is of equivocal significance at 0.05 to 0.15, and is not significant at >0.15.

^bShown as variable measured. Letters "WB" indicate assay by Western blot; the other protein studies used immunohistochemical methods.

^cM = multivariate statistical analysis; U = univariate statistical analysis.

TABLE 6. PERCENTAGE OF BREAST CARCINOMAS WITH METASTASIS COMPARED WITH PROGNOSTIC SIGNIFICANCE OF c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION



P for correlation of c-erbB-2 activation with patient outcome.

Each study's percentage of breast carcinomas with metastasis is compared with the correlation between c-erbB-2 activation and outcome. These data include only those studies that considered, as one group, all breast cancer patients, whether or not they had axillary metastasis. Superscripts are the references. In parentheses are the types of c-erbB-2 activation. *P* values are interpreted as in Table 3.

A second problem is that various types of breast carcinoma are grouped together in many survival studies. Because the current literature suggests that c-erbB-2 activation is infrequent in lobular carcinoma, studies that combine infiltrating ductal and lobular carcinomas may dilute the prognostic effect of c-erbB-2 activation in ductal tumors. In addition, most studies do not analyze inflammatory breast carcinoma separately. This condition frequently shows c-erbB-2 activation and has a worse prognosis than the usual mammary carcinoma, but it is an uncommon lesion.

A third potential problem is the paucity of studies that attempt to correlate c-erbB-2 activation with clinical outcome in subsets of breast carcinoma without metastasis. Two recent abstracts reported that in patients without lymph node metastasis who had various risk factors for recurrence (such as large tumor size and absence of estrogen receptors), c-erbB-2 overexpression predicted early recurrence.^{23,67} In patients with ductal carcinoma in situ, one small study found no association between tumor recurrence and c-erbB-2 activation.⁴⁰

A fourth problem is the lack of data regarding whether the prognosis correlates better with c-erbB-2 DNA amplification or with mRNA or protein overproduction. Most studies that find a correlation between c-erbB-2 activa-

tion and poor patient outcome measure *c-erbB-2* DNA amplification (Table 5), and breast carcinoma patients with greater amplification of *c-erbB-2* may have poorer survival.^{79,81} Recent studies suggest that amplification has more prognostic power than overproduction,^{17,34,35} but the clinical significance of *c-erbB-2* overproduction without DNA amplification deserves further research.^{17,52} Few studies have attempted to correlate patient outcome with *c-erbB-2* mRNA overproduction, and many studies of *c-erbB-2* protein overproduction use relatively less reliable methods such as immunohistochemical studies with polyclonal antibodies.

Comparison of *c-erbB-2* Activation With Other Oncogenes in Breast Carcinoma

Other oncogenes that may have prognostic implications in human breast cancer are reviewed elsewhere.^{71,106} This section will be restricted to a comparison between the clinical relevance of *c-erbB-2* and these other oncogenes.

The *c-myc* gene is often activated in breast carcinomas, but *c-myc* activation generally has less prognostic importance than *c-erbB-2* activation.^{21,34,77,87,93} One study found a correlation between increased mRNAs of *c-erbB-2* and *c-myc*, although other reports have not confirmed this.^{34,106} Subsequent research, however, could demonstrate a subset of breast carcinomas in which *c-myc* has more prognostic importance than *c-erbB-2*.

The gene *c-erbB-1* for the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) is homologous with *c-erbB-2* but is infrequently amplified in breast carcinomas.⁷⁹ Overproduction of EGFR, however, occurs more frequently than amplification and may correlate with a poor prognosis. In studies that have examined both *c-erbB-2* and EGFR in the same tumor, *c-erbB-2* has a stronger correlation with poor prognostic factors.^{35,52} Studies have tended to show no correlation between amplification of *c-erbB-2* and *c-erbB-1* or overproduction of *c-erbB-2* and EGFR, although at the molecular level EGFR mediates phosphorylation of *c-erbB-2* protein.^{51,52,61,69,100} Recent reviews describe EGFR in breast carcinoma.^{43,100}

The genes *c-erbA* and *ear-1* are homologous to the thyroid hormone receptor, and they are located adjacent to *c-erbB-2* on chromosome 17. These genes are frequently coamplified with *c-erbB-2* in breast carcinomas. The absence of *c-erbA* expression in breast carcinomas, however, is evidence against an important role for this gene in breast neoplasia.⁸⁰ Amplification of *c-erbB-2* can occur without *ear-1* amplification, and these tumors have a decreased survival that is similar to tumors with both *c-erbB-2* and *ear-1* amplification.⁸⁷ Consequently, *c-erbB-2* amplification seems to be more important than amplification of *c-erbA* or *ear-1*.

Other genes also have been compared with *c-erbB-2* activation in breast carcinomas. One study found a significant correlation between increased *c-erbB-2* mRNA and increased mRNAs of *fos*, platelet-derived growth factor chain A, and *Ki-ras*.¹⁰⁶ Allelic deletion of *c-Ha-ras* may indicate a poorer prognosis in breast carcinoma,²¹ but it has not been compared with *c-erbB-2* activation. Some studies have suggested a correlation between advanced stage or recurrence of breast carcinoma and activation of any one of several oncogenes.^{21,113}

ACTIVATION OF c-erbB-2 IN NON-MAMMARY TISSUES

Incidence of c-erbB-2 Activation in Non-Mammary Tissues

Table 7 summarizes the normal tissues in which c-erbB-2 expression has been detected, usually with immunohistochemical methods using polyclonal anti-

TABLE 7. PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF c-erbB-2 mRNA OR c-erbB-2 PROTEIN IN NORMAL HUMAN TISSUES

Tissues With c-erbB-2 mRNA	Tissues Producing c-erbB-2 Protein ^a	Tissues Lacking c-erbB-2 mRNA	Tissues Lacking c-erbB-2 Protein
Skin ²⁴	Epidermis ⁵² External root sheath ⁵⁶ Eccrine sweat gland ⁵² Fetal oral mucosa ⁶² Fetal esophagus ⁶²		Postnatal oral mucosa ⁶² Postnatal esophagus ⁶²
Stomach ²⁴	Stomach ^{22,62} Fetal intestine ^{62a}		
Jejunum ²⁴	Small intestine ^{22,62}		
Colon ²⁴	Colon ^{22,62}		
Kidney ²⁴	Fetal kidney ^{62a} Fetal proximal tubule ⁶² Distal tubule ⁶² Fetal collecting duct ⁶² Fetal renal pelvis ⁶² Fetal ureter ⁶²	Kidneys ¹⁰⁴	Glomerulus ⁶² Postnatal Bowman's capsule ⁶² Postnatal proximal tubule ⁶² Postnatal collecting duct ⁶² Postnatal renal pelvis ⁶² Postnatal fetal ureter ⁶²
Liver ²⁴	Hepatocytes ²² Pancreatic acini ²² Pancreatic ducts ^{22,62} Endocrine cells of islets of Langerhans ²²		Liver ^{62,65} Pancreatic islets ⁶²
Lung ²⁴	Fetal trachea ⁶² Fetal bronchioles ⁶² Bronchioles ⁶²		Postnatal trachea ⁶² Postnatal bronchioles ⁶² Postnatal alveoli ^{62,69}
Fetal brain ²⁴	Fetal ganglion cells ⁶²		Postnatal brain ⁶² Postnatal ganglion cells ⁶²
Thyroid ¹			
Uterus ²⁴	Ovary ¹² Blood vessels ⁴²		Endothelium ⁶²
Placenta ²⁴			Adrenocortical cells ⁶² Postnatal thymus ⁶² Fibroblasts ⁶² Smooth muscle cells ⁶² Cardiac muscle cells ⁶²

^aThis protein study used Western blots; the rest used immunohistochemical methods.

bodies. Only a few studies have been performed, and some of these do not demonstrate convincing cell membrane reactivity in the published photographs. The interpretations in these studies, however, are listed, with the caveat that these findings should be confirmed by immunoprecipitation or Western or RNA blots. Production of *c-erbB-2* has been identified in normal epithelium of the gastrointestinal tract and skin. Discrepancies regarding *c-erbB-2* protein in other tissues could be due, at least in part, to differences in techniques.

The data on *c-erbB-2* activation in various non-mammary neoplasms should be interpreted with caution, because only small numbers of tumors have been studied, usually by immunohistochemical methods using polyclonal antibodies. Studies using cell lines have been excluded, because cell culture can induce amplification and overexpression of other genes, although this has not been documented for *c-erbB-2*.

Activation of *c-erbB-2* has been identified in 32 percent (64 of 203) of ovarian carcinomas in eight studies (Table 8). One abstract⁴⁵ stated that ovarian carcinomas contained significantly more *c-erbB-2* protein than ovarian non-epithelial malignancies. Another report⁶¹ showed that 12 percent of ovarian carcinomas had *c-erbB-2* overproduction without amplification.

Activation of *c-erbB-2* has been identified in 20 percent (40 of 198) of gastric adenocarcinomas in seven studies, including 33 percent (21 of 64) of

TABLE 8. *c-erbB-2* ACTIVATION IN HUMAN GYNECOLOGIC TUMORS*

Tumor Type	<i>c-erbB-2</i> DNA Amplification	<i>c-erbB-2</i> mRNA Over-production	<i>c-erbB-2</i> Protein Over-production
Ovary—carcinoma, not otherwise specified	31/120, ⁵¹ 1/11, ⁵⁷ 0/5, ¹⁰⁷ 0/5, ⁸⁴ 0/3, ¹¹² 0/2, ⁷⁸ 0/1 ¹¹⁰	23/67 ⁸¹	23/73, ¹² 36/72 ⁶¹
Ovary—serous (papillary) carcinoma	2/7, ¹¹⁰ 1/7, ¹¹² 0/5 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—endometrioid carcinoma	0/3 ¹¹⁰	—	—
Ovary—mucinous carcinoma	1/2, ¹¹⁰ 0/1 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—clear cell carcinoma	0/2, ¹¹² 0/1 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—mixed epithelial carcinoma	0/2 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—endometrioid borderline tumor	0/1 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—mucinous borderline tumor	0/3 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—serous cystadenoma	0/4 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—mucinous cystadenoma	0/2 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—sclerosing stromal tumor	0/1 ⁷²	—	—
Ovary—fibrothecoma	0/1 ⁷²	—	—
Uterus—endometrial adenocarcinoma	0/4, ⁸⁴ 0/1 ¹¹⁰	—	—

*Shown as number of cases with amplification (or overproduction)/total number of cases studied; reference is given as superscript. All protein studies used immunohistochemical methods.

intestinal or tubular subtypes and 9 percent (4 of 47) of diffuse or signet ring cell subtypes (Table 9). Activation of c-erbB-2 has been detected in 2 percent (6 of 281) of colorectal carcinomas, although an additional immunohistochemical study detected c-erbB-2 protein in seven of eight tissues fixed in Bouin's solution. One study found greater immunohistochemical reactivity for c-erbB-2 protein in colonic adenomatous polyps than in the adjacent normal epithelium, using Bouin's fixative. Lesions with anaplastic features and progression to invasive carcinoma tended to show decreased immunohistochemical reactivity for c-erbB-2 protein.²² Hepatocellular carcinomas (12 of 14 cases) and cholangiocarcinomas (46 of 63 cases) reacted with antibodies against c-erbB-2 in one study, but some of these "positive" cases showed only diffuse cytoplasmic staining, which

TABLE 9. c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION IN HUMAN GASTROINTESTINAL TUMORS*

Tumor Type	c-erbB-2 DNA Amplification	c-erbB-2 Protein Overproduction
Esophagus—squamous cell carcinoma	0/1 ¹⁰⁷	0/1 ⁸¹
Stomach—carcinoma, poorly differentiated	0/22 ¹⁰⁸	—
Stomach—adenocarcinoma	2/24, ⁸⁴ 2/9, ¹⁰⁷ 2/8, ¹¹¹ 2/8, ⁸⁷ 0/1 ¹⁰⁸	4/27, ²⁹ 3/10 ⁸¹
Stomach—carcinoma, intestinal or tubular type	5/10 ¹⁰⁸	18/54 ²⁹
Stomach—carcinoma, diffuse or signet ring cell type	0/2 ¹⁰⁸	4/45 ²⁹
Colorectum—carcinoma	2/49, ⁸⁴ 1/45, ¹¹¹ 1/45, ⁸⁷ 1/45, ⁸⁰ 0/40, ⁸¹ 0/32, ¹⁰⁷ 0/3 ⁸²	1/22, ⁸⁸ 7/8 ^{22b}
Colon—villous adenoma	0/1 ⁸⁰	—
Colon—tubulovillous adenoma	0/5 ⁸⁰	—
Colon—tubular adenoma	0/7 ⁸⁰	19/19 ^{22b}
Colon—hyperplastic polyp	0/1 ⁸⁰	—
Intestine—leiomyosarcoma	—	0/1 ⁸¹
Hepatocellular carcinoma	0/12 ¹¹¹	12/14, ⁸⁵ 0/2 ⁸¹
Hepatoblastoma	0/1 ⁸⁷	—
Cholangiocarcinoma	—	46/63 ²⁵
Pancreas—adenocarcinoma	—	2/80, ^{41c} 0/2 ⁸¹
Pancreas—acinar carcinoma	—	0/1 ⁴¹
Pancreas—clear cell carcinoma	—	0/2 ⁴¹
Pancreas—large cell carcinoma	—	0/3 ⁴¹
Pancreas—signet ring carcinoma	—	0/1 ⁴¹
Pancreas—chronic inflammation	—	0/14 ^{41c}

*Shown as number of cases with amplification (or overproduction)/total number of cases studied; reference is given as superscript. All protein studies used immunohistochemical methods. No studies analyzed for c-erbB-2 mRNA.

^bTissues fixed in Bouin's solution.

^cOnly cases with distinct membrane staining are interpreted as showing c-erbB-2 overproduction.

TABLE 10. *c-erbB-2* ACTIVATION IN HUMAN PULMONARY TUMORS*

Tumor Type	<i>c-erbB-2</i> DNA Amplification	<i>c-erbB-2</i> Protein Overproduction
Non-small cell carcinoma	2/60, ⁷⁵ 0/60 ⁸¹	1/84 ⁸³
Epidermoid carcinoma	0/13, ⁸² 0/10, ⁸⁷ 0/6 ⁸⁸	3/5 ⁸⁸
Adenocarcinoma	0/21, ⁸² 1/13, ⁸⁸ 0/7, ¹¹¹ 0/7, ⁸⁷ 0/3 ¹⁰⁷	4/12 ⁸⁸
Large cell carcinoma	0/9, ⁸² 0/6 ⁸⁸	—
Small cell carcinoma	—	0/26, ⁸⁸ 0/3 ⁸⁹
Carcinoid tumor	0/1 ⁸²	0/3 ⁸⁹

*Shown as number of cases with amplification (or overproduction)/total number of cases studied; reference is given as superscript. All protein studies used immunohistochemical methods. No studies analyzed for *c-erbB-2* mRNA.

does not indicate *c-erbB-2* activation in breast neoplasms.⁸⁵ Also, some pancreatic carcinomas and chronic pancreatitis tissue had cytoplasmic immunohistochemical reactivity for *c-erbB-2* protein, in addition to the rare case of pancreatic adenocarcinoma with distinct cell membrane staining.⁴¹

Tables 10 through 14 summarize the studies of *c-erbB-2* activation in other neoplasms. The *c-erbB-2* oncogene is not activated in most of these tumors. Activation of *c-erbB-2* has been detected in 1 percent (4 of 299) of pulmonary non-small cell carcinomas in nine studies, although one additional report⁸⁹ found *c-erbB-2* protein overproduction in 41 percent (7 of 17). Renal cell carcinoma had *c-erbB-2* activation in 7 percent (2 of 30) in four studies. Overproduction of *c-erbB-2* protein was described in one transitional cell carcinoma of the urinary bladder, a grade 2 papillary lesion.⁸⁸ Squamous cell carcinoma and basal cell carcinoma of the skin may contain *c-erbB-2* protein, but it is not clear

TABLE 11. *c-erbB-2* ACTIVATION IN HUMAN HEMATOLOGIC PROLIFERATIONS*

Tumor Type	<i>c-erbB-2</i> DNA Amplification	<i>c-erbB-2</i> mRNA Overproduction	<i>c-erbB-2</i> Protein Overproduction
Hematologic malignancies	0/23 ¹¹¹	—	—
Malignant lymphoma	0/9, ⁸⁷ 0/3 ¹⁰⁷	0/1 ¹	0/15 ⁸¹
Acute leukemia	0/14 ⁸⁷	—	—
Acute lymphoblastic leukemia	0/1 ¹⁰⁷	—	—
Acute myeloblastic leukemia	0/3 ¹⁰⁷	—	—
Chronic leukemia	0/18 ⁸⁷	—	—
Chronic lymphocytic leukemia	0/6 ¹⁰⁷	—	—
Chronic myelogenous leukemia	0/8 ¹⁰⁷	—	—
Myeloproliferative disorder	0/1 ⁸⁷	—	—

*Shown as number of cases with amplification (or overproduction)/total number of cases studied; reference is given as superscript. All protein studies used immunohistochemical methods.

TABLE 12. c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION IN HUMAN TUMORS OF SOFT TISSUE AND BONE*

Tumor Type	c-erbB-2 DNA Amplification
Sarcoma	0/10, ¹¹¹ 0/8 ⁹⁷
Malignant fibrous histiocytoma	0/1 ¹⁰⁷
Liposarcoma	0/3 ¹⁰⁷
Pleomorphic sarcoma	0/1 ¹⁰⁷
Rhabdomyosarcoma	0/1 ¹⁰⁷
Osteogenic sarcoma	0/2, ¹⁰⁷ 0/2 ⁹⁷
Chondrosarcoma	0/1 ¹⁰⁷
Ewing's sarcoma	0/1 ⁹⁷
Schwannoma	0/1 ⁹⁷

*Shown as number of cases with amplification (or overproduction)/total number of cases studied; reference is given as superscript. No studies analyzed for c-erbB-2 mRNA or c-erbB-2 protein.

whether the protein level is increased over that of normal skin.³⁶ Thyroid carcinomas and adenomas can have low levels of increased c-erbB-2 mRNA. One abstract described low-level c-erbB-2 DNA amplification in one of ten salivary gland pleomorphic adenomas.⁴⁸

Correlation of c-erbB-2 Activation With Patient Outcome

Very few studies have attempted to correlate c-erbB-2 activation in non-mammary tumors with outcome. Slamon et al⁹¹ showed that c-erbB-2 amplification or overexpression in ovarian carcinomas correlates with decreased survival, especially when marked activation is present. However, they did not report the stage, histological grade, or histological subtype of these neoplasms. Another study of stages III and IV ovarian carcinomas found a correlation between decreased survival and c-erbB-2 protein overproduction, but not between survival and histological grade.¹⁸ One abstract stated that c-erbB-2 protein overproduction in 10 of 16 pulmonary adenocarcinomas correlated with decreased disease-free interval.⁷⁰ Another abstract described a tendency for immunohisto-

TABLE 13. c-erbB-2 ACTIVATION IN HUMAN TUMORS OF THE URINARY TRACT*

Tumor Type	c-erbB-2 DNA Amplification	c-erbB-2 mRNA Overproduction	c-erbB-2 Protein Overproduction
Kidney—renal cell carcinoma	1/5, ⁹⁷ 1/4, ¹⁰⁷ 0/5 ⁹⁴	0/16 ¹⁰⁴	—
Wilms' tumor	0/4 ⁹⁷	—	—
Prostate—adenocarcinoma	—	—	0/23 ⁵⁹
Urinary bladder—carcinoma	—	—	1/48 ⁵⁸

*Shown as number of cases with amplification (or overproduction)/total number of cases studied; reference is given as superscript. All protein studies used immunohistochemical methods.

TABLE 14. *c-erbB-2* ACTIVATION IN MISCELLANEOUS HUMAN TUMORS*

Tumor Type	<i>c-erbB-2</i> DNA Amplification	<i>c-erbB-2</i> mRNA Overproduction	<i>c-erbB-2</i> Protein Over- production
Skin—malignant melanoma	—	—	0/10 ²⁸
Skin, head and neck—squamous cell carcinoma	0/7 ¹⁰⁷	—	—
Site not stated—squamous cell carcinoma	0/8, ⁵⁷ 0/2 ⁷⁵	—	—
Salivary gland—adenocarcinoma	1/1 ⁷⁵	—	—
Parotid gland—adenoid cystic carcinoma	—	—	0/1 ⁵¹
Thyroid—anaplastic carcinoma	0/1 ¹	0/1 ¹	—
Thyroid—papillary carcinoma	0/5 ¹	3(low levels)/5 ¹	—
Thyroid—adenocarcinoma	0/1 ²⁴	—	—
Thyroid—adenoma	0/2 ¹	1(low levels)/2 ¹	—
Neuroblastoma	0/35, ⁵¹ 0/8, ⁵⁷ 0/1 ⁷⁵	—	—
Meningioma	0/2 ⁵⁷	—	—

*Shown as number of cases with amplification (or overproduction)/total number of cases studied; reference is given as superscript. All protein studies used immunohistochemical methods.

chemical reactivity for *c-erbB-2* protein to correlate with higher grades of prostatic adenocarcinoma.⁵⁷ Additional prognostic studies of ovarian carcinomas and other neoplasms are needed.

SUMMARY

Activation of the *c-erbB-2* oncogene can occur by amplification of *c-erbB-2* DNA and by overproduction of *c-erbB-2* mRNA and *c-erbB-2* protein. Approximately 20 percent of breast carcinomas show evidence of *c-erbB-2* activation, which correlates with a poor prognosis primarily in patients with metastasis to axillary lymph nodes. Studies that have attempted to correlate *c-erbB-2* activation with other prognostic factors in breast carcinoma have reported conflicting conclusions. The pathologic and clinical significance of *c-erbB-2* activation in other neoplasms is unclear and should be assessed by additional studies.

REFERENCES

1. Aasland R, Lillehaug JR, Male R, et al. Expression of oncogenes in thyroid tumors: Coexpression of *c-erbB2/neu* and *c-erbB*. *Br J Cancer*. 57:358, 1988
2. Akiyama T, Sudo C, Ogawara H, et al. The product of the human *c-erbB-2* gene: A 185-kilodalton glycoprotein with tyrosine kinase activity. *Science*. 232:1644, 1986

3. Ali IU, Lidereau R, Theillet C, Callahan R. Reduction to homozygosity of genes on chromosome 11 in human breast neoplasia. *Science*. 238:185, 1987
4. Ali IU, Campbell G, Lidereau R, Callahan R. Amplification of c-erbB-2 and aggressive human breast tumors. *Science*. 240:1795, 1988
5. Ali IU, Campbell G, Lidereau R, Callahan R. Lack of evidence for the prognostic significance of c-erbB-2 amplification in human breast carcinoma. *Oncogene Res*. 3:139, 1988
6. Bacus SS, Bacus JW, Slamon DJ, Press MF. HER-2/neu oncogene expression and DNA ploidy analysis in breast cancer. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 114:164, 1990
7. Bacus SS, Ruby SG, Weinberg DS, et al. HER-2/neu oncogene expression and proliferation in breast cancers. *Am J Pathol*. 137:103, 1990
8. Bargmann CI, Hung MC, Weinberg RA. The neu oncogene encodes an epidermal growth factor receptor-related protein. *Nature*. 319:226, 1986
9. Bargmann CI, Hung MC, Weinberg RA. Multiple independent activations of the neu oncogene by a point mutation altering the transmembrane domain of p185. *Cell*. 45:649, 1986
10. Bargmann CI, Weinberg RA. Oncogenic activation of the neu-encoded receptor protein by point mutation and deletion. *EMBO J*. 7:2043, 1988
11. Barnes DM, Lammie GA, Millis RR, et al. An immunohistochemical evaluation of c-erbB-2 expression in human breast carcinoma. *Br J Cancer*. 58:448, 1988
12. Berchuck A, Kamel A, Whitaker R, et al. Overexpression of HER-2/neu is associated with poor survival in advanced epithelial ovarian cancer. *Cancer Res*. 50:4087, 1990
13. Berger MS, Locher GW, Saurer S, et al. Correlation of c-erbB-2 gene amplification and protein expression in human breast carcinoma with nodal status and nuclear grading. *Cancer Res*. 48:1238, 1988
14. Bernards R, Destree A, McKenzie S, et al. Effective tumor immunotherapy directed against an oncogene-encoded product using a vaccinia virus vector. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 84:6854, 1987
15. Blunno I, Pozzi MR, Pierotti MA, et al. Structure and expression of oncogenes in surgical specimens of human breast carcinomas. *Br J Cancer*. 57:464, 1988
16. Borg A, Linell F, Idvall I, et al. Her2/neu amplification and comedo type breast carcinoma. *Lancet*. 1:1268, 1989
17. Borg A, Tandon AK, Sigurdsson H, et al. HER-2/neu amplification predicts poor survival in node-positive breast cancer. *Cancer Res*. 50:4332, 1990
18. Bouchard L, Lamarre L, Tremblay PJ, Jolicoeur P. Stochastic appearance of mammary tumors in transgenic mice carrying the MMTV/c-neu oncogene. *Cell*. 57:931, 1989
19. Carney WP, Retos C, Petit D, et al. Quantitation of the neu oncogene protein using a monoclonal antibody based immunoassay (abstract). *Mod Pathol*. 3:15A, 1990
20. Cline MJ, Battifora H. Abnormalities of protooncogenes in non-small cell lung cancer: Correlations with tumor type and clinical characteristics. *Cancer*. 60:2669, 1987
21. Cline MJ, Battifora H, Yokota J. Proto-oncogene abnormalities in human breast cancer: Correlations with anatomic features and clinical course of disease. *J Clin Oncol*. 5:999, 1987
22. Cohen JA, Weiner DB, More KF, et al. Expression pattern of the neu (NGL) gene-encoded growth factor receptor protein (p185^{neu}) in normal and transformed epithelial tissues of the digestive tract. *Oncogene*. 4:81, 1989
23. Colnaghi MI, Miotti S, Andreola S, et al. New prognostic factors in breast cancer (abstract). *Am Assoc Cancer Res Ann Meeting*. 30:230A, 1989

24. Coussens L, Yang-Feng TL, Liao YC, et al. Tyrosine kinase receptor with extensive homology to EGF receptor shares chromosomal location with *neu* oncogene. *Science*. 230:1132, 1985
25. Di Fiore PP, Pierce JH, Kraus MH, et al. *erbB-2* is a potent oncogene when overexpressed in NIH/3T3 cells. *Science*. 237:178, 1987
26. Drebin JA, Link VC, Weinberg RA, Greene MI. Inhibition of tumor growth by a monoclonal antibody reactive with an oncogene-encoded tumor antigen. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 83:9129, 1986
27. Drebin JA, Link VC, Greene MI. Monoclonal antibodies reactive with distinct domains of the *neu* oncogene-encoded p185 molecule exert synergistic anti-tumor effects in vivo. *Oncogene*. 2:273, 1988
28. Drebin JA, Link VC, Greene MI. Monoclonal antibodies specific for the *neu* oncogene product directly mediate anti-tumor effects in vivo. *Oncogene*. 2:387, 1988
29. Falck VC, Gullick WJ. *c-erbB-2* oncogene product staining in gastric adenocarcinoma. An immunohistochemical study. *J Pathol*. 159:107, 1989
30. Fendly BM, Winget M, Hudziak RM, et al. Characterization of murine monoclonal antibodies reactive to either the human epidermal growth factor receptor or *HER2/neu* gene product. *Cancer Res*. 50:1550, 1990
31. Fontaine J, Tesseraux M, Klein V, et al. Gene amplification and expression of the *neu* (*c-erbB-2*) sequence in human mammary carcinoma. *Oncology*. 45:360, 1988
32. Frye RA, Benz CC, Liu E. Detection of amplified oncogenes by differential polymerase chain reaction. *Oncogene*. 4:1153, 1989
33. Fukushige SI, Matsubara KI, Yoshida M, et al. Localization of a novel *v-erbB*-related gene, *c-erbB-2*, on human chromosome 17 and its amplification in a gastric cancer cell line. *Mol Cell Biol*. 6:955, 1986
34. Guerin M, Barrois M, Terrier MJ, et al. Overexpression of either *c-myc* or *c-erbB-2/neu* proto-oncogenes in human breast carcinomas: Correlation with poor prognosis. *Oncogene Res*. 3:21, 1988
35. Guerin M, Gabillot M, Mathieu MC, et al. Structure and expression of *c-erbB-2* and EGF receptor genes in inflammatory and non-inflammatory breast cancer: Prognostic significance. *Int J Cancer*. 43:201, 1989
36. Gullick WJ, Berger MS, Bennett PLP, et al. Expression of the *c-erbB-2* protein in normal and transformed cells. *Int J Cancer*. 40:246, 1987
37. Gullick WJ, Venter DJ. The *c-erbB2* gene and its expression in human cancers. In: Waxman J, Sikora K, eds. *The Molecular Biology of Cancer*. Boston, Blackwell Sci Publ; 1989: 38-53
38. Gullick WJ. Expression of the *c-erbB-2* proto-oncogene protein in human breast cancer. *Recent Results Cancer Res*. 113:51, 1989
39. Gusterson BA, Machin LG, Gullick WJ, et al. *c-erbB-2* expression in benign and malignant breast disease. *Br J Cancer*. 58:453, 1988
40. Gusterson BA, Machin LG, Gullick WJ, et al. Immunohistochemical distribution of *c-erbB-2* in infiltrating and in situ breast cancer. *Int J Cancer*. 42:842, 1988
41. Hall PA, Hughes CM, Staddon SL, et al. The *c-erbB-2* proto-oncogene in human pancreatic cancer. *J Pathol*. 161:195, 1990
42. Hanna W, Kahn HJ, Andrusis I, Pawson T. Distribution and patterns of staining of *neu* oncogene product in benign and malignant breast diseases. *Mod Pathol*. 3:455, 1990
43. Harris AL, Nicholson S. Epidermal growth factor receptors in human breast cancer.

- In: Lippman ME, Dickson RB, eds. *Breast Cancer: Cellular and Molecular Biology*. Boston, Kluwer Academic Publ; 1988: 93-118
44. Heintz NH, Leslie KO, Rogers LA, Howard PL. Amplification of the c-erbB-2 oncogene and prognosis of breast adenocarcinoma. *Arch Pathol Lab Med*. 114:160, 1990
 45. Huettner P, Carney W, Delellis R, et al. Quantification of the neu oncogene product in ovarian neoplasms (abstract). *Mod Pathol*. 3:46A, 1990
 46. Hung MC, Yan DH, Zhao X. Amplification of the proto-neu oncogene facilitates oncogenic activation by a single point mutation. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 86:2545, 1989
 47. Hynes NE, Gerber HA, Saurer S, Groner B. Overexpression of the c-erbB-2 protein in human breast tumor cell lines. *J Cell Biochem*. 39:167, 1989
 48. Kahn HJ, Hanna W, Auger M, Andreulis I. Expression and amplification of neu oncogene in pleomorphic adenoma of salivary glands (abstract). *Mod Pathol*. 3:50A, 1990
 49. King CR, Kraus MH, Aaronson SA. Amplification of a novel v-erbB-related gene in a human mammary carcinoma. *Science*. 229:974, 1985
 50. King CR, Swain SM, Porter L, et al. Heterogeneous expression of erbB-2 messenger RNA in human breast cancer. *Cancer Res*. 49:4185, 1989
 51. Kokai Y, Dobashi K, Weiner DB, et al. Phosphorylation process induced by epidermal growth factor receptor alters the oncogenic and cellular neu (NGL) gene products. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 85:5389, 1988
 52. Lacroix H, Iglehart JD, Skinner MA, Kraus MH. Overexpression of erbB-2 or EGF receptor proteins present in early stage mammary carcinoma is detected simultaneously in matched primary tumors and regional metastases. *Oncogene*. 4:145, 1989
 53. Lemoine NR, Staddon S, Dickson C, et al. Absence of activating transmembrane mutations in the c-erbB-2 proto-oncogene in human breast cancer. *Oncogene*. 5:237, 1990
 54. Lodato RF, Maguire HC, Greene MJ, et al. Immunohistochemical evaluation of c-erbB-2 oncogene expression in ductal carcinoma in situ and atypical ductal hyperplasia of the breast. *Mod Pathol*. 3:449, 1990
 55. Maguire HC, Greene MI. The neu (c-erbB-2) oncogene. *Semin Oncol*. 16:148, 1989
 56. Maguire HC, Jaworsky C, Cohen JA, et al. Distribution of neu (c-erbB-2) protein in human skin. *J Invest Dermatol*. 89:786, 1989
 57. Masuda H, Battifora H, Yokota J, et al. Specificity of proto-oncogene amplification in human malignant diseases. *Mol Biol Med*. 4:213, 1987
 58. McCann A, Dervan PA, Johnston PA, et al. c-erbB-2 oncoprotein expression in primary human tumors. *Cancer*. 65:88, 1990
 59. McKenzie SJ, Marks PJ, Lam T, et al. Generation and characterization of monoclonal antibodies specific for the human neu oncogene product, p185. *Oncogene*. 4:543, 1989
 60. Meltzer SJ, Ahnen DJ, Battifora H, et al. Protooncogene abnormalities in colon cancers and adenomatous polyps. *Gastroenterology*. 92:1174, 1987
 61. Mori S, Akiyama T, Morishita Y, et al. Light and electron microscopical demonstration of c-erbB-2 gene product-like immunoreactivity in human malignant tumors. *Virchows Arch [B]*. 54:8, 1987
 62. Mori S, Akiyama T, Yamada Y, et al. C-erbB-2 gene product, a membrane protein commonly expressed in human fetal epithelial cells. *Lab Invest*. 61:93, 1989
 63. Muller WJ, Sinn E, Pattengale PK, et al. Single-step induction of mammary

- adenocarcinoma in transgenic mice bearing the activated *c-neu* oncogene. *Cell*. 54:105, 1988
64. Ong G, Gullick W, Sikora K. Oncoprotein stability after tumor resection. *Br J Cancer*. 61:538, 1990
65. Parks HC, Lillycrop K, Howell A, Craig RK. *C-erbB2* mRNA expression in human breast tumors: Comparison with *c-erbB2* DNA amplification and correlation with prognosis. *Br J Cancer*. 61:39, 1990
66. Popescu NC, King CR, Kraus MH. Localization of the *erbB-2* gene on normal and rearranged chromosomes 17 to bands q12-q21.32. *Genomics*. 4:362, 1989
67. Press MF, Pike MC, Paterson MC, et al. Overexpression of *HER-2/neu* proto-oncogene in node negative breast cancer: Correlation with increased risk of early recurrent disease (abstract). *Mod Pathol*. 3:80A, 1990
68. Ramachandra S, Machin L, Ashley S, et al. Immunohistochemical distribution of *c-erbB-2* in in situ breast carcinoma: A detailed morphological analysis. *J Pathol*. 161:7, 1990
69. Rio MC, Bellocq JP, Gairard B, et al. Specific expression of the *p52* gene in subclasses of breast cancers in comparison with expression of the estrogen and progesterone receptors and the oncogene *ERBB2*. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 84:9243, 1987
70. Robinson R, Kern J, Weiner D, et al. *p185^{neu}* expression in human lung non-small cell carcinomas: An immunohistochemical study with clinicopathologic correlation (abstract). *Mod Pathol*. 3:85A, 1990
71. Rochlitz CF, Benz CC. Oncogenes in human solid tumors. In: Benz C, Liu E, eds. *Oncogenes*. Boston, Kluwer Academic Publ; 1989: 189-240
72. Sasano H, Garret CT, Wilkinson DS, et al. Protooncogene amplification and tumor ploidy in human ovarian neoplasms. *Hum Pathol*. 21:382, 1990
73. Schechter AL, Stern DF, Vaidyanathan L, et al. The *neu* oncogene: An *erbB*-related gene encoding a 185,000-M_r tumor antigen. *Nature*. 312:513, 1984
74. Schechter AL, Hung MC, Vaidyanathan L, et al. The *neu* gene: An *erbB*-homologous gene distinct from and unlinked to the gene encoding the EGF receptor. *Science*. 229:976, 1985
75. Schneider PM, Hung MC, Chiocca SM, et al. Differential expression of the *c-erbB-2* gene in human small cell and non-small cell lung cancer. *Cancer Res*. 49:4968, 1989
76. Semba K, Kamata N, Toyoshima K, Yamamoto T. A *v-erbB*-related protooncogene, *c-erbB-2*, is distinct from the *c-erbB-1*/epidermal growth factor-receptor gene and is amplified in a human salivary gland adenocarcinoma. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA*. 82:6497, 1985
77. Seshadri R, Matthews C, Dobrovic A, Horsfall DJ. The significance of oncogene amplification in primary breast cancer. *Int J Cancer*. 43:270, 1989
78. Shih C, Padhy LC, Murray M, Weinberg RA. Transforming genes of carcinomas and neuroblastomas introduced into mouse fibroblasts. *Nature*. 290:261, 1981
79. Slamon DJ, Clark GM, Wong SG, et al. Human breast cancer: Correlation of relapse and survival with amplification of the *HER-2/neu* oncogene. *Science*. 235:177, 1987
80. Slamon DJ, Clark GM. Amplification of *c-erbB-2* and aggressive human breast tumors. *Science*. 240:1795, 1988
81. Slamon DJ, Godolphin W, Jones LA, et al. Studies of the *HER-2/neu* proto-oncogene in human breast and ovarian cancer. *Science*. 244:707, 1989

82. Slebos RJC, Evers SG, Wagenaar SS, Rodenhuis S. Cellular protooncogenes are infrequently amplified in untreated non-small cell lung cancer. *Br J Cancer*. 59:76, 1989
83. Stern DF, Kamps MP, Cao H. Oncogenic activation of p185^{neu} stimulates tyrosine phosphorylation in vivo. *Mol Cell Biol*. 8:3969, 1988
84. Tal M, Wetzler M, Josephberg Z, et al. Sporadic amplification of the *HER2/neu* protooncogene in adenocarcinomas of various tissues. *Cancer Res*. 48:1517, 1988
85. Tandon AK, Clark GM, Chamness GC, et al. *HER-2/neu* oncogene protein and prognosis in breast cancer. *J Clin Oncol*. 7:1120, 1989
86. Thor AD, Schwartz LH, Koerner FC, et al. Analysis of *c-erbB-2* expression in breast carcinomas with clinical follow-up. *Cancer Res*. 49:7147, 1989
87. Tsuda H, Hirohashi S, Shimosato Y, et al. Correlation between long-term survival in breast cancer patients and amplification of two putative oncogene-coamplification units: *hst-1/int-2* and *c-erbB-2/ear-1*. *Cancer Res*. 49:3104, 1989
88. Tsutsumi Y, Naber SP, DeLellis RA, et al. *Neu* oncogene protein and epidermal growth factor receptor are independently expressed in benign and malignant breast tissues. *Hum Pathol*. 21:750, 1990
89. Tsutsumi Y, Stork PJ, Wolfe HJ. Detection of DNA amplification and mRNA overexpression of the *neu* oncogene in breast carcinomas by polymerase chain reaction (abstract). *Mod Pathol*. 3:101A, 1990
90. Van de Vijver M, van de Bersselaar R, Devilee P, et al. Amplification of the *neu* (*c-erbB-2*) oncogene in human mammary tumors is relatively frequent and is often accompanied by amplification of the linked *c-erbA* oncogene. *Mol Cell Biol*. 7:2019, 1987
91. Van de Vijver MJ, Mooi WJ, Wisman P, et al. Immunohistochemical detection of the *neu* protein in tissue sections of human breast tumors with amplified *neu* DNA. *Oncogene*. 2:175, 1988
92. Van de Vijver MJ, Peterse JL, Mooi WJ, et al. *Neu*-protein overexpression in breast cancer: Association with comedo-type ductal carcinoma in situ and limited prognostic value in stage II breast cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 319:1239, 1988
93. Varley JM, Swallow JE, Brammar WJ, et al. Alterations to either *c-erbB-2* (*neu*) or *c-myc* proto-oncogenes in breast carcinomas correlate with poor short-term prognosis. *Oncogene*. 1:423, 1987
94. Venter DJ, Tuzi NL, Kumar S, Gullick WJ. Overexpression of the *c-erbB-2* oncoprotein in human breast carcinomas: Immunohistological assessment correlates with gene amplification. *Lancet*. 2:69, 1987
95. Voravud N, Foster CS, Gilbertson JA, et al. Oncogene expression in cholangiocarcinoma and in normal hepatic development. *Hum Pathol*. 20:1163, 1989
96. Walker RA, Senior PV, Jones JL, et al. An immunohistochemical and in situ hybridization study of *c-myc* and *c-erbB-2* expression in primary human breast carcinomas. *J Pathol*. 158:97, 1989
97. Ware JL, Maygarden SJ, Koontz WW, Strom SC. Differential reactivity with anti-*c-erbB-2* antiserum among human malignant and benign prostatic tissue (abstract). *Am Assoc Cancer Res Ann Meeting*. 30:437A, 1989
98. Weiner DB, Liu J, Cohen JA, et al. A point mutation in the *neu* oncogene mimics ligand induction of receptor aggregation. *Nature*. 339:230, 1989
99. Weiner DB, Nordberg J, Robinson R, et al. Expression of the *neu* gene-encoded protein (p185^{neu}) in human non-small cell carcinomas of the lung. *Cancer Res*. 50:421, 1990

190 T.P. SINGLETON AND J.G. STRICKLER

100. Wells A. The epidermal growth factor receptor and its ligand. In: Benz C, Liu E, eds. *Oncogenes*. Boston, Kluwer Academic Pub; 1989: 143-168
101. Wright C, Angus B, Nicholson S, et al. Expression of c-erbB-2 oncoprotein: A prognostic indicator in human breast cancer. *Cancer Res.* 49:2087, 1989
102. Wu A, Colombero A, Low J, et al. Analysis of expression and mutation of the erbB-2 gene in breast carcinoma by the polymerase chain reaction (abstract). *Mod Pathol.* 3:108A, 1990
103. Yamamoto T, Ikawa S, Akiyama T, et al. Similarity of protein encoded by the human c-erbB-2 gene to epidermal growth factor receptor. *Nature.* 319:230, 1986
104. Yao M, Shuin T, Misiaki H, Kubota Y. Enhanced expression of c-myc and epidermal growth factor receptor (C-erbB-1) genes in primary human renal cancer. *Cancer Res.* 48:6753, 1988
105. Yarden Y, Weinberg RA. Experimental approaches to hypothetical hormones: Detection of a candidate ligand of the neu protooncogene. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA.* 86:3179, 1989
106. Yec LD, Kacinski BM, Carter D. Oncogene structure, function and expression in breast cancer. *Semin Diagn Pathol.* 6:110, 1989
107. Yokota J, Yamamoto T, Toyoshima K, et al. Amplification of c-erbB-2 oncogene in human adenocarcinomas in vivo. *Lancet.* 1:765, 1986
108. Yokota J, Yamamoto T, Miyajima N, et al. Genetic alterations of the c-erbB-2 oncogene occur frequently in tubular adenocarcinoma of the stomach and are often accompanied by amplification of the v-erbA homologue. *Oncogene.* 2:283, 1988
109. Zeillinger R, Kury F, Czerwenka K, et al. HER-2 amplification, steroid receptors and epidermal growth factor receptor in primary breast cancer. *Oncogene.* 4:109, 1989
110. Zhang X, Silva E, Gershenson D, Hung MC. Amplification and rearrangement of c-erbB proto-oncogenes in cancer of human female genital tract. *Oncogene.* 4:985, 1989
111. Zhou D, Battifora H, Yokota J, et al. Association of multiple copies of the c-erbB-2 oncogene with spread of breast cancer. *Cancer Res.* 47:6123, 1987
112. Zhou D, Gonzalez-Cadavid N, Ahuja H, et al. A unique pattern of proto-oncogene abnormalities in ovarian adenocarcinomas. *Cancer.* 62:1573, 1988
113. Zhou D, Ahuja H, Cline MJ. Proto-oncogene abnormalities in human breast cancer: c-erbB-2 amplification does not correlate with recurrence of disease. *Oncogene.* 4:105, 1989

The t(5;14) Chromosomal Translocation in a Case of Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia Joins the Interleukin-3 Gene to the Immunoglobulin Heavy Chain Gene

By J. Christopher Grimaldi and Timothy C. Meeker

Chromosomal translocations have proven to be important markers of the genetic abnormalities central to the pathogenesis of cancer. By cloning chromosomal breakpoints one can identify activated proto-oncogenes. We have studied a case of B-lineage acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) that was associated with peripheral blood eosinophilia. The chromosomal translocation t(5;14) (q31;q32) from this sample was cloned and studied at the molecular level. This

translocation joined the immunoglobulin heavy chain joining (Jh) region to the promoter region of the interleukin-3 (IL-3) gene in opposite transcriptional orientations. The data suggest that activation of the IL-3 gene by the enhancer of the immunoglobulin heavy chain gene may play a central role in the pathogenesis of this leukemia and the associated eosinophilia.

© 1989 by Grune & Stratton, Inc.

KARYOTYPIC STUDIES of leukemia and lymphoma have identified frequent nonrandom chromosomal translocations. Some of these translocations juxtapose the immunoglobulin heavy chain (IgH) gene with important

protooncogenes, such as *c-myc* and *bcl-2*.^{1,2} In this way, the IgH gene can activate proto-oncogenes, resulting in disordered gene expression and a step in the development of cancer. The investigation of additional nonrandom translocations into the IgH locus allows us to identify new genes promoting the generation of leukemia and lymphoma.

A distinct subtype of acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL) has been characterized by B-lineage phenotype, associated eosinophilia in the peripheral blood, and a t(5;14)(q31;q32) chromosomal translocation.^{3,4} This syndrome probably occurs in <1% of all patients with ALL. We hypothesized that the cloning of the translocation characteristic of this leukemia might allow the identification of an important gene on chromosome 5 that plays a role in the evolution of this disease. In this report we demonstrate that the interleukin-3 gene (IL-3) and the IgH gene are joined by this translocation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample and DNA blots. A bone marrow aspirate from a representative patient with ALL (L1 morphology by French-American-British [FAB] criteria), peripheral eosinophilia (up to 20,000 per microliter with a normal value of <350 per microliter) and a t(5;14)(q31;q32) translocation was studied. Using published methods, genomic DNA was isolated and DNA blots were made.⁵ Briefly, 10 µg of high molecular weight (mol wt) DNA were digested using an appropriate restriction enzyme and electrophoresed on a 0.8% agarose gel. The gel was stained with ethidium bromide, photographed, denatured, neutralized, and transferred to Hybond (Amersham, Arlington Heights, IL). After treatment of the filter with ultraviolet light, hybridization was performed. The filter was washed to a final stringency of 0.2% saturated sodium citrate (SSC) and 0.1% sodium lauryl sulfate (SDS) and exposed to film. The human Jh probe has been previously reported.⁶

Genomic library. The genomic library was made using pub-

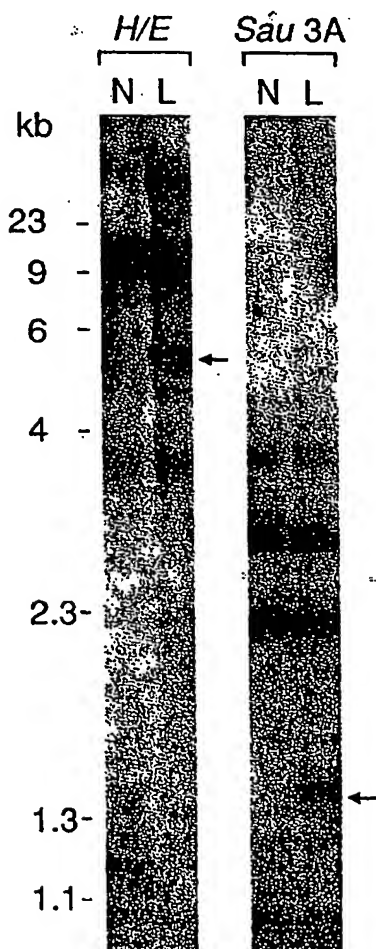


Fig 1. DNA blots of the leukemia sample. The restriction fragment pattern of normal human DNA (N) and the leukemia sample (L) were compared using a human Jh probe. Rearranged bands are indicated by arrows. Sample L exhibits a single rearranged band with both *Hind*III/*Eco*RI and *Sau*3A restriction digests. The rearranged bands are less intense than the other bands because the majority of cells in the sample represent normal bone marrow elements.

From the Division of Hematology/Oncology, Department of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco.

Submitted February 22, 1989; accepted March 8, 1989.

Supported by NIH Grant No. CA01102.

Address reprint requests to Timothy C. Meeker, MD, UCSF/VAMC 111H, 4150 Clement St, San Francisco, CA 94121.

Dr Grimaldi's current address is Biostan Inc, 440 Chesapeake Dr, Seaport Centre, Redwood City, CA 94063.

The publication costs of this article were defrayed in part by page charge payment. This article must therefore be hereby marked "advertisement" in accordance with 18 U.S.C. section 1734 solely to indicate this fact.

© 1989 by Grune & Stratton, Inc.
0006-4971/89/7308-0031\$3.00/0

lished methods.⁵ Approximately 100 μ g of high mol wt genomic DNA were partially digested with the *Sau*3A restriction enzyme. Fragments from 9 to 23 kilobases (kb) in size were isolated on a sucrose gradient and ligated into phage EMBL3A (Stratagene, San Diego). Recombinant phage were packaged, plated, and screened as previously reported.⁵

DNA sequencing. Fragments for sequencing were cloned into M13 vectors and sequenced by the chain termination method using Sequenase (United States Biochemical, Cleveland).⁷ All sequence data were derived from both strands.

RESULTS

We studied a bone marrow sample from a patient with ALL and associated peripheral eosinophilia. Karyotypic analysis showed the characteristic t(5;14)(q31;q32) translocation. These features define a distinctive subtype of ALL.^{3,4} The leukemic cells were analyzed for cell surface phenotype by immunofluorescence. They were positive for B1 (CD20), B4 (CD19), cALLA (CD10), HLA-DR, and terminal deoxynucleotidyl transferase (Tdt), but negative for surface immunoglobulin. This phenotypic profile describes an immature cell from the B-lymphocytic lineage.⁸

The leukemia DNA was analyzed by Southern blotting for rearrangements of the IgH gene. Using a human immunoglobulin Jh probe, a single rearranged band was detected by *Eco*RI, *Hind*III, *Sst*I, *Sau*3A, and *Eco*RI plus *Hind*III restriction digests, suggesting rearrangement of one allele (Fig 1). The immunoglobulin Jh region from the other allele was presumably either deleted or in the germline configuration.

We hypothesized that the t(5;14)(q31;q32) juxtaposed a

growth-promoting gene on chromosome 5 with the immunoglobulin Jh region on chromosome 14. Therefore, a genomic library was made from the leukemic sample and screened with a Jh probe. Fifteen distinct positive clones were isolated and screened for the presence of the rearranged *Sau*3A fragment that was detected by DNA blotting. By this analysis, five clones appeared to represent the rearranged allele identified by DNA blots. One of these clones (clone no. 4) was chosen for further study and a detailed restriction map was generated. The *Eco*RI, *Hind*III/*Eco*RI, and *Sst*I fragments from clone no. 4 that hybridized to the human Jh probe were also identical in size to the rearranged fragments from the leukemia sample, confirming that clone no. 4 represented the rearranged leukemic allele.

Phage clone no. 4 contained 3.7 kb of unknown origin joined to the IgH gene in the region of Jh4 (Fig 2). The IgH gene from Jh4 to the C μ region appeared to be in germline configuration. Previously, the gene encoding hematopoietic growth factor IL-3 had been mapped to chromosome 5q31 so it was suspected that clone no. 4 might contain part of this gene.⁹⁻¹² When the restriction map of human IL-3 and clone no. 4 were compared, they were identical for more than 3 kb (Fig 2).

We confirmed the juxtaposition of the IL-3 gene and the IgH gene by nucleic acid sequencing of the subcloned *Bst*EII/*Hpa*I fragment (Fig 2). The sequence of this fragment showed no disruption of the protein coding region or the messenger RNA of the IL-3 gene. The break in the IL-3 gene occurred in the promoter region, 452 base pairs (bp) upstream of the transcriptional start site (position 64, Fig

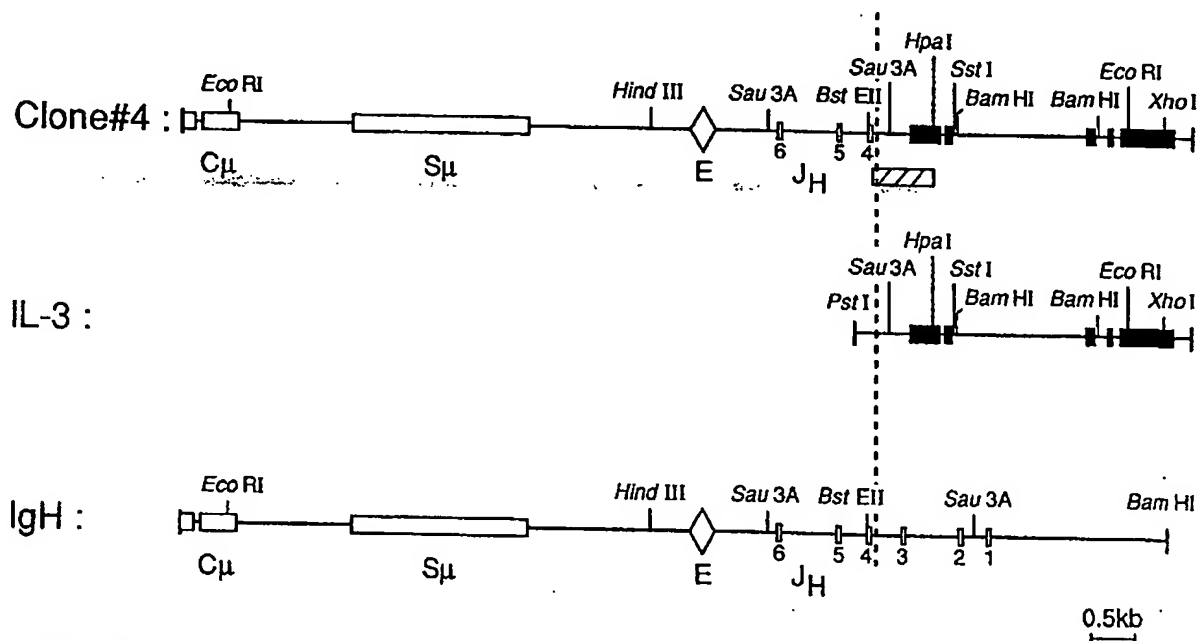


Fig 2. Breakpoint region: t(5;14)(q31;q32). Comparative mapping of phage clone no. 4, the germline IgH region, and the germline IL-3 gene.^{22,23} The map of clone no. 4 is identical to that of IgH until it diverges in the region of Jh4 (at the dashed line), after which it is identical to the map of IL-3. The two genes are positioned in a head-to-head orientation. The Ig μ chain constant region (C μ), switch region (S μ), enhancer (E), and Jh segments are indicated (open symbols). The five exons (dark boxes) and four introns of the IL-3 gene are shown. The hatched box indicates the sequenced region.

3A). The break in the IgH gene occurred 2 bp upstream of the Jh4 region. Between the two breaks, 25 bp of uncertain origin (putative N sequence) were inserted.^{13,14} No sequences homologous to the immunoglobulin heptamer and nonamer could be identified in the IL-3 sequence (Fig 3B). Therefore, nucleic acid sequencing confirmed the juxtaposition of the IL-3 gene and the IgH gene. The sequence data clearly showed that the genes were positioned in opposite transcriptional orientations (head-to-head).

Available data also allowed us to determine the normal positions of the IL-3 gene and the GM-CSF gene in relation to the centromere of chromosome 5 (Fig 4). The IgH gene is known to be positioned with the variable regions toward the telomere on chromosome 14q.^{2,15} It has also been shown that

GM-CSF maps within 9 kb of IL-3 in the same transcriptional orientation.¹⁶ Using this information and assuming a simple translocation event in our sample, we can conclude that the IL-3 gene is normally more centromeric, and the GM-CSF gene more telomeric on chromosome 5q (Fig 4). Furthermore, both are transcribed with their 5' ends toward the centromere.

DISCUSSION

In this report we have cloned a unique chromosomal translocation that appears to be a consistent feature of a rare, yet distinct, clinical form of acute leukemia. This translocation joined the promotor of the IL-3 gene to the IgH gene. Except for the altered promotor, the IL-3 gene appeared

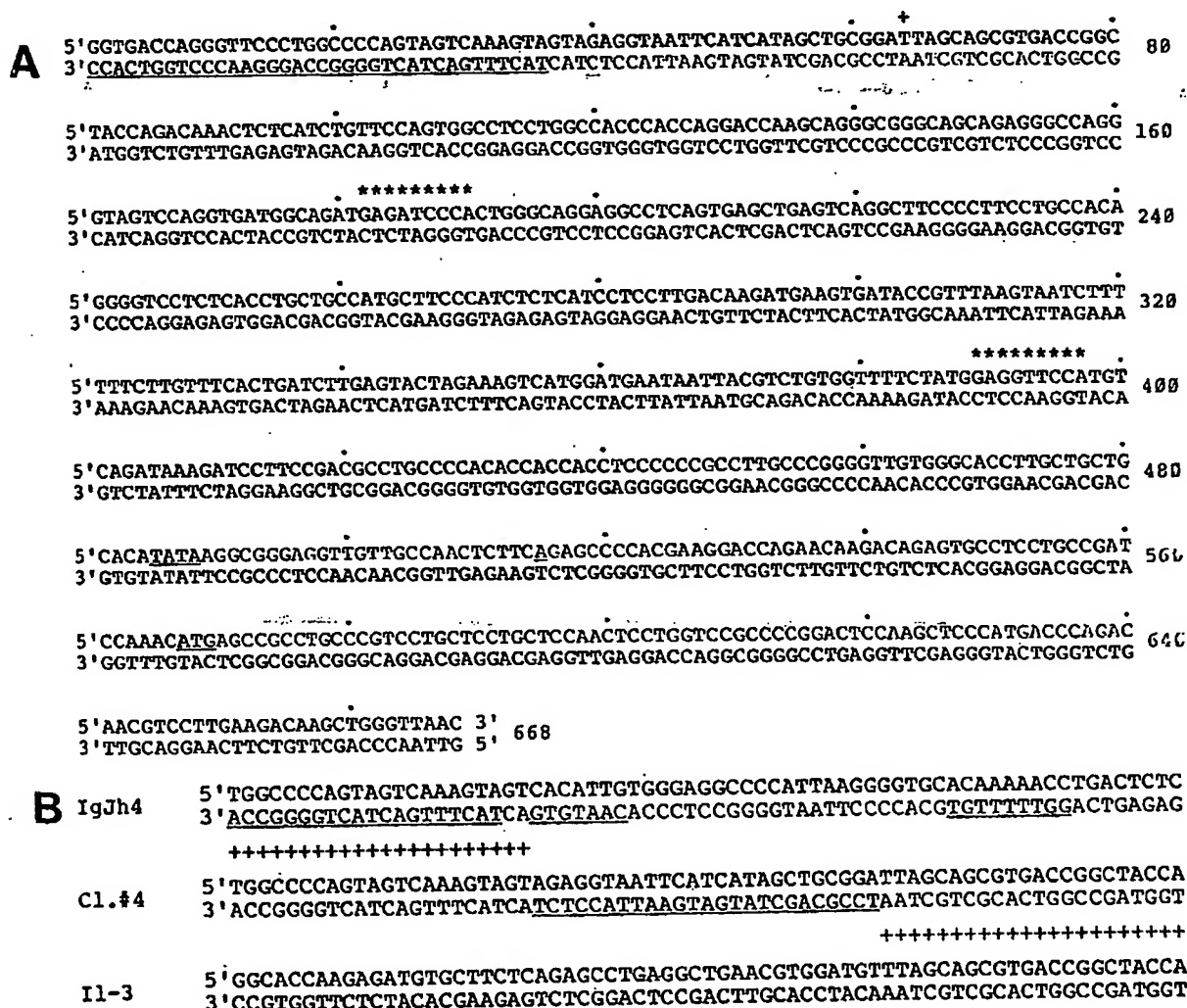


Fig 3. Sequence of t(5;14)(q31;q32) breakpoint region. (A) Nucleotide sequence of the *Bst*II/*Hpa*I fragment indicated on Fig 2. Nucleotides 1 to 36 represent the Jh4 coding region underlined on the coding strand.⁹ Nucleotides 39 to 63 are a putative N region. The sequence from position 64 to 668 is that of the germline IL-3 gene.²⁰ The IL-3 TATA box (485), transcription start (515), and initiation methionine (567) are underlined. Two proposed regulatory sequences in the promotor are marked by asterisks (positions 182 and 389). (B) Comparative sequence of the t(5;14)(q31;q32) breakpoint region. The IgJh4 region is shown with its coding region, heptamer, and nonamer underlined. Clone no. 4 is shown with putative N region sequences underlined. The IL-3 sequence is also shown. A plus sign (+) denotes the identical nucleotide between sequences. No heptamer or nonamer is identified in the IL-3 sequence.

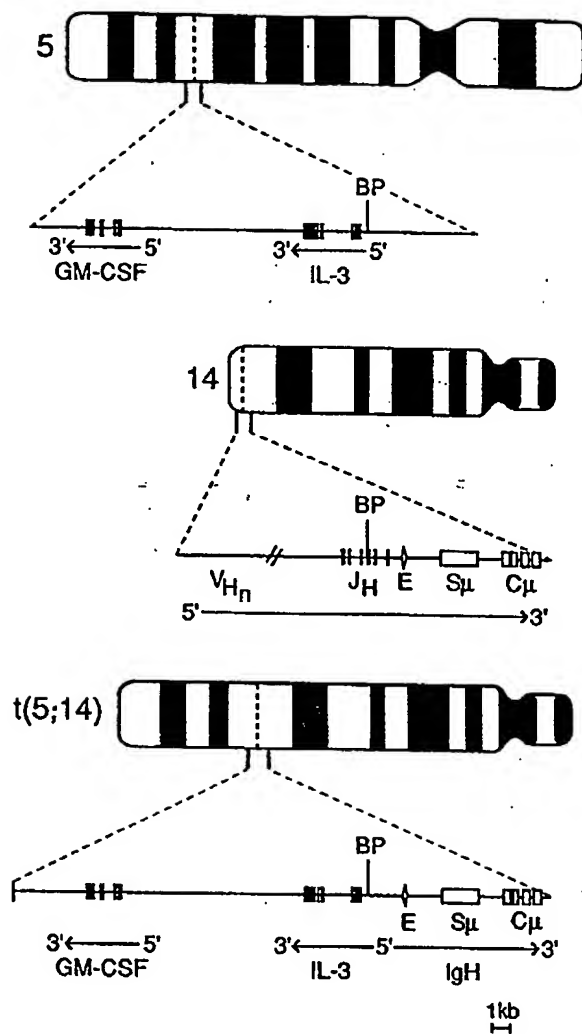


Fig 4. Diagram of the translocation. The normal chromosome 5q31 is shown with the GM-CSF gene telomeric to the IL-3 gene in the transcriptional orientation shown. On normal chromosome 14q32 the V_{Hn} regions are telomeric. The t(5;14)(q31;q32) translocation results in the head-to-head orientation of these genes. Symbols are defined in Fig 2. BP, breakpoint position.

intact as no deletions, insertions, or point mutations were detected by restriction mapping of the entire gene and sequencing of part of the gene. The IgH gene has been truncated at the J_H4 region, which places the immunoglobulin enhancer within 2.5 kb of the IL-3 gene.^{17,18} This leads to the hypothesis that the enhancer is increasing transcription of a structurally normal IL-3 gene. The same mechanism is important for activation of the *c-myc* gene in some cases of Burkitt's lymphoma.¹⁹ An alternate hypothesis is that the elimination of an upstream IL-3 promoter element is crucial to the activation of the IL-3 gene.

The proposed activation of the IL-3 gene suggests that an autocrine loop is important for the pathogenesis of this leukemia.²⁰ Over-expression of the IL-3 gene coupled with

the presence of the IL-3 receptor in these cells could account for a strong stimulus for proliferation. In this regard, there are data indicating that immature B-lineage lymphocytes and B-lineage leukemias may express the IL-3 receptor.^{21,22}

An additional feature of this type of leukemia is the dramatic eosinophilia, consisting of mature forms. It has been hypothesized that the eosinophils do not arise from the malignant clone, but are stimulated by the tumor.^{23,24} Because of the known effect of IL-3 on eosinophil differentiation, secretion of high levels of IL-3 by leukemic cells might have a role in the eosinophilia in this type of leukemia.¹²

The data suggest that the recombination mechanism that is active in the IgH gene during normal differentiation has a role in this translocation.^{13,14} This is supported by the breakpoint location at the 5' end of J_H4 and the presence of putative N-region sequences. On the other hand, no recombination signal sequence (heptamer and nonamer) was found in this region on chromosome 5, suggesting that additional factors also played a role. Further studies will elucidate the mechanism of this and other translocations.

In the leukemia we studied, it is possible that the immunoglobulin enhancer also activates the GM-CSF gene, since this gene is probably positioned only 14 kb away (Fig 4). This is known to be within the range of enhancer activation.²⁵ The interleukin-5 (IL-5) gene maps to chromosome 5q31.²⁶ Deregulation of the IL-5 gene by this translocation would act synergistically with IL-3 in the stimulation of eosinophil proliferation and differentiation.²⁷ These and other questions will be answered by the study of more patient samples. We plan to determine whether the t(5;14)(q31;q32) translocation is capable of activating multiple lymphokines simultaneously and whether they cooperate in the generation of this leukemia.

REFERENCES

1. Klein G, Klein E: Evolution of tumours and the impact of molecular oncology. *Nature* 315:190, 1985
2. Showe L, Croce CC: The role of chromosomal translocations in B- and T-cell neoplasia. *Annu Rev Immunol* 5:253, 1987
3. Hogan T, Koss W, Murgu A, Amato R, Fontana J, VanScoy F: Acute lymphoblastic leukemia with chromosomal 5;14 translocation and hyper eosinophilia: Case report and literature review. *J Clin Oncol* 5:382, 1987
4. Tono-oka T, Sato Y, Matsumoto T, Ueno N, Ohkawa M, Shikano T, Takeda T: Hyper eosinophilic syndrome in acute lymphoblastic leukemia with a chromosome translocation t(5q;14q). *Med Pediatr Oncol* 12:33, 1984
5. Meeker T, Grimaldi JC, O'Rourke R, Loeb J, Juliusson G, Einhorn S: Lack of detectable somatic hypermutation in the V region of the IgH gene of a human chronic B-lymphocytic leukemia. *J Immunol* 141:3394, 1988
6. Ravetch J, Siebenlist U, Korsmeyer S, Waldmann T, Leder P: Structure of the human immunoglobulin μ locus: Characterization of embryonic and rearranged J and D genes. *Cell* 27:583, 1981
7. Norrander U, Kempe T, Messing J: Construction of improved M13 vectors using oligodeoxynucleotide-directed mutagenesis. *Gene* 26:101, 1983
8. Foon K, Todd R: Immunologic classification of leukemia and lymphoma. *Blood* 68:1, 1986
9. LeBeau M, Epstein N, O'Brien SJ, Nienhuis AW, Yang Y-C, Clark S, Rowley J: The interleukin-3 gene is located on human

chromosome 5 and is deleted in myeloid leukemias with a deletion of 5q. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 84:5913, 1987

10. LeBeau M, Chandrasekharappi S, Lemons R, Schwartz J, Larson R, Arai N, Westbrook C: Molecular and cytogenetic analysis of chromosome 5 abnormalities in myeloid disorders, in cancer cells, in *Proceedings of Molecular Diagnostics of Human Cancer*. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, NY, 1989 (in press)

11. Ihle J, Weinstein Y: Immunological regulation of hematopoietic/lymphoid stem cell differentiation by interleukin-3. *Adv Immunol* 39:1, 1986

12. Clark S, Kamen R: The human hematopoietic colony-stimulating factors. *Science* 236:1229, 1987

13. Bakhshi A, Wright J, Graninger W, Seto M, Owens J, Cossman J, Jensen J, Goldman P, Korsmeyer S: Mechanism of the t(14,18) chromosomal translocation: Structural analysis of both derivative 14 and 18 reciprocal partners. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 84:2396, 1987

14. Tsujimoto Y, Louie E, Bashir M, Croce C: The reciprocal partners of both the t(14,18) and the t(11,14) translocations involved in B-cell neoplasms are rearranged by the same mechanism. *Oncogene* 2:347, 1988

15. Erikson J, Finan J, Nowell P, Croce C: Translocation of immunoglobulin VH genes in Burkitt lymphoma. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 80:810, 1982

16. Yang Y-C, Kovacic S, Kriz R, Wolf S, Clark S, Wellems T, Nienhuis A, Epstein N: The human genes for GM-CSF and IL-3 are closely linked in tandem on chromosome 5. *Blood* 71:958, 1988

17. Gillies S, Morrison S, Oi V, Tonegawa S: A tissue-specific transcription enhancer element is located in the major intron of a rearranged immunoglobulin heavy chain gene. *Cell* 33:717, 1983

18. Banerji J, Olson L, Schaffner W: A lymphocyte-specific cellular enhancer is located downstream of the joining region in immunoglobulin heavy chain genes. *Cell* 33:729, 1983

19. Hayday A, Gillies S, Saito H, Wood C, Wiman K, Hayward

W, Tonegawa S: Activation of a translocated human c-myc gene by an enhancer in the immunoglobulin heavy-chain locus. *Nature* 307:334, 1984

20. Sporn M, Roberts A: Autocrine growth factors and cancer. *Nature* 313:745, 1985

21. Palacios R, Steinmetz M: IL-3-dependent mouse clones that express B-220 surface antigen, contain Ig genes in germ line configuration, and generate B lymphocytes in vivo. *Cell* 41:727, 1985

22. Uckun F, Gesner T, Song C, Myers D, Mufson A: Leukemic B-cell precursors express functional receptors for human interleukin-3. *Blood* 73:533, 1989

23. Spitzer G, Garson O: Lymphoblastic leukemia with marked eosinophilia: A report of two cases. *Blood* 42:377, 1973

24. Catovsky D, Bernasconi C, Verkonck P, Postma A, Hows J, Berg A, Rees J, Castelli G, Morra E, Galton D: The association of eosinophilia with lymphoblastic leukemia or lymphoma: A study of seven patients. *Br J Haematol* 45:523, 1980

25. Wang X-F, Calame K: The endogenous immunoglobulin heavy chain enhancer can activate tandem Vh promoters separated by a large distance. *Cell* 43:659, 1985

26. Sutherland G, Baker E, Callen D, Campbell H, Young I, Sanderson C, Garson O, Lopez A, Vadas M: Interleukin-5 is at 5q31 and is deleted in the 5q-syndrome. *Blood* 71:1150, 1988

27. Warren D, Moore M: Synergism among interleukin-1, interleukin-3, and interleukin-5 in the production of eosinophils from primitive hemopoietic stem cells. *J Immunol* 140:94, 1988

28. Yang Y-C, Clark S: Molecular cloning of a primate cDNA and the human gene for interleukin-3. *Lymphokines* 15:375, 1988

29. Yang Y-C, Ciarletta A, Temple P, Chung M, Kovacic S, Wittek-Giannotti J, Leary A, Kriz R, Donahue R, Wong G, Clark S: Human IL-3 (multi-CSF): Identification by expression cloning of a novel hematopoietic growth factor related to murine IL-3. *Cell* 47:3, 1986

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☒ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☒ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☒ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☒ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☒ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.